COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM
Patrick J. Fox, PhD, Chair

Tuesday, September 3, 2002
9:00 – 10:30 a.m.
Room S30

MINUTES

Present: P. Fox (Chair), M. Eisner, S. Gansky, B. Jacobs, S. Kahl
Absent: None
Guest: Tamara Maimon, Director – UCSF Academic Senate

Chair’s Report

Chair Fox provided a brief overview of the academic year 2001 – 2002 and highlighted issues of importance from the 2001 - 2002 Annual Report (attached):

- Revision of Committee bylaws.
- Initial review of Petition for UCSF Policy Not to Accept Tobacco Industry Funding.
- Consideration of process for student evaluation of faculty.
- Consideration of extent of awareness of academic freedom and the need to expand this awareness.

Town Hall Meeting on Tobacco Industry Funding

A Special Town Hall Meeting on Tobacco Industry Funding of Research will be held on Wednesday, September 25, 2002 from 1:00-3:00 pm in Toland Hall. Chair Fox distributed the draft agenda of this meeting, which was discussed and approved by the Committee (attached). The Senate Office will finalize the document and post it, along with all relevant documents – both Pro and Con related to this issue on the Academic Senate website at http://www.ucsf.edu/senate/townhallmeeting/index.html.

The purpose of the Town Hall meeting is to provide members of the campus community with an opportunity to fully discuss all issues related to the acceptance of tobacco industry funding and its impact on the academic freedom of investigators. Following this meeting, the Academic Senate will determine if further meetings should be held and it is anticipated that sometime in October 2002, the Senate Office will release a ballot with questions posed to all UCSF faculty to ascertain the position of UCSF faculty relative to whether a UCSF Policy Not to Accept Tobacco Industry Funding should be adopted. The Faculty Councils of the Schools of Medicine, Nursing, Pharmacy and Dentistry, the Committees on Academic Freedom and Research and Senate Chair Daniel Bikle will work to finalize the content of this ballot prior to its distribution. The results of the ballot will be formally communicated to UCSF Chancellor J. Michael Bishop and Executive Vice Chancellor for Research Regis Kelly by the Academic Senate.
Review of Matter Related to Potential Academic Freedom Infringement

In a closed session of the Committee it considered a matter raised by a member of the UCSF faculty concerning potential academic freedom infringement. Following extensive discussion, the Committee determined that additional information was needed in order to make a determination about how it would proceed. The Committee will consider this matter further at its October 1, 2002 meeting.

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