COMMUNICATION FROM THE TASK FORCE ON REVIEW OF PROPOSED INSTITUTE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH
Sharon Hall, PhD, Chair

Leonard Zegans, MD
Chair, UCSF Academic Senate
Box 0764

October 8, 2003

Dear Dr. Zegans

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the August 15, 2003 letter from George Rutherford, Interim Director for the Institute on Global Health (Attachment 1) which addressed the comments and concerns raised by this task force regarding the Institute’s proposed Organized Research Unit (ORU) application (Attachment 2). While the proposal continues to be of great interest and great potential, the Task Force has the remaining reservations.

1. It remains unclear how this new ORU will enhance research and training significantly beyond that which is ongoing at the UCSF campus and at UC Berkeley.

2. Funding and structure of the Institute remains of concern:
   - Indirect funding from extramural grants appears to be the sole revenue to support the administrative infrastructure of the Institute. It is unclear however, whether this revenue will be sufficient to cover these and other indirect costs.
   - While there may currently be no new net cost to the campus to fund the Institute, it is unclear whether the Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics will be adversely affected by the transfer of indirect costs to the Institute. It would seem that some of the uncertainty could be clarified with a letter of support from the Department Chair of Epidemiology and Biostatistics.
   - The Task Force again raises the possibility that the authors of the proposal may wish to consider whether the Institute would be more appropriately designated a Multi-Campus Research Unit (MRU), unfunded by the campus. In the original proposal, the authors mention the possibility of such an application when the economy recovers. The structure seems to better fit this collaboration between UCSF and UCB. Further, it remains unclear why such a request should be held in abeyance until the economy recovers, since both University of California system-wide administration and UCSF are affected by the same economic factors.

Should the above outlined concerns and comments be addressed, the Task force would recommend approval of what remains a strong and interesting proposal.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions and thank you again for the opportunity to review an issue of such importance.
Yours Sincerely,

[Signature]

Sharon Hall, PhD
Chair

Task Force Members:
Marguerite Engler, PhD, RN, MS, FAHA
Deanna Kroetz, PhD
Grayson Marshall, DDS, MPH, PhD
Norman Oppenheimer, PhD
Russell Pieper, PhD