COMMUNICATION FROM TASK FORCE REVIEWING CREATION OF DEPARTMENT OF BIOENGINEERING
Farid Chehab, PhD, Chair

September 10, 2003

Leonard Zegans, MD
Chair, UCSF Academic Senate

Dear Dr. Zegans:

Thank you very much for the opportunity to review the proposal for the creation of a Department of Bioengineering at UCSF. The proposal was discussed on September 10, 2003 by a Task Force consisting of five Academic Senate members: Farid Chehab, PhD, Chair (Graduate Council), Deanna Kroetz, PhD (Graduate Council), Wendy Max, PhD (Committee on Research), Norman Oppenheimer, PhD (Committee on Academic Planning and Budget), and Richard Shafer, PhD (Committee on Educational Policy). The review of the proposal was very favorable and we were enthusiastic with current efforts aimed at the creation of this Department. The Task Force is, however, making a few recommendations that might further strengthen the proposal and ensure the success of this endeavor.

1. Include an executive summary which clearly states the advantages to the students, faculty and the University of creating a department as opposed to remaining a division.

2. Provide more elaborate documentation of University commitment towards funding of the new Department during its start-up phase and the amount of funding that can be expected for subsequent ongoing operations in addressing the current reductions in state funding.

3. Given the Department’s eventual location within the Institute for Quantitative Biomedical Research at Mission Bay and to further enhance financial resources, include in the proposal a section promoting joint ventures between the Department of Bioengineering and private industry.

Overall, the Task Force unanimously endorsed this proposal. If you need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 476-0310.

Sincerely,

Farid Chehab, PhD
Professor in Residence
School of Medicine

Deanna Kroetz, PhD
Associate Professor
School of Pharmacy

Wendy Max, PhD
Professor in Residence
School of Nursing

Norman Oppenheimer, PhD
Professor
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Richard Shafer, PhD
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