COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMITTEE ON LIBRARY
David Rempel, MD, MPH, Chair

July 6, 2004

Leonard S. Zegans, M.D.
Chair, Academic Senate
UCSF
San Francisco, CA 94143

Dear Dr. Zegans,

The campus is considering many possibilities for space usage as it plans for a new hospital. We understand that one option under consideration is converting the 4th and 5th floors of the Campus Library to education space.

The Committee on Library reviews space allocations within the Library on a yearly basis along with a consideration of future needs. It is responsible for making any recommendations for changes to the space to the Vice Chancellor.

Converting library space to other purposes could have a significant impact on specific segments of the campus population. For example the 4th and 5th floors have heavily used study rooms for students, carrels for faculty, a world-renown historical collection, and the primary reception site for distinguished scholarly events for the campus. The fire-prevention infrastructure of these floors was specially designed at considerable extra expense not to use water in order to protect these collections, and also to avoid water damage to collections on lower floors.

At its last meeting, the Committee on Library reviewed the library use data for this past year. It noted that the numbers of individuals entering the building has remained relatively stable since 2000 at approximately 570,000 visitors per year.

While we understand that there may be similar discussions for many other buildings on campus, the Library is a resource for the entire campus community. We urge that any discussion about converting the space for other purposes should proceed cautiously and request that the Library Committee be involved in any discussions or planning efforts related to the use of the Library. The Committee on
Library is ready to evaluate and help guide any campus planning efforts related current and future use of library space.

Respectfully,

**Committee on Library**
David Rempel, M.D., MPH, Chair

cc: Committee on Library
Adele Clarke, Incoming Chair
Judith Barker
Karen Butter, University Librarian
Mark Dellinges
R. Kip Guy
Nancy Hessol
Martin London
Dyche Mullins
Thomas Newman
Keir Reavie