COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM
Mark Eisner, MD, Chair

MINUTES
Tuesday, January 18, 2005
9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. / Room S30

Present: M. Eisner, S. Gansky, S. Gitelman, J. Lightwood
Absent: P. Braveman, H. Pollick, V. Reus, M. Wallhagen

The meeting of the Committee on Academic Freedom convened at 9:10 a.m. on Tuesday, January 18, 2005 in Room S30. A quorum was not present.

University Committee on Academic Freedom

Chair Eisner reported that the University Committee on Academic Freedom (UCAF) discussed the Resolution on Restrictions on Research Funding (see below) at length during its most recent meeting. UCAF unanimously endorsed the resolution with no changes. During discussion, UCAF members expressed concern that a rejection of the proposal, which would allow individual units within the University to restrict research funding sources, might curtail the academic freedom of individual faculty by denying them access to certain funding sources.

UCAF is currently examining the academic freedom protections in place for UC students. UCAF has convened an ad hoc committee to consider ways in which more clarity can be given to policies protecting student academic freedom.

UCAF is continuing discussion of the Patriot Act and its impact on academic freedom. The Committee will consider at its next meeting whether to recommend that a resolution for the entire University (and not just individual campuses) be passed, identifying one individual to respond to requests for information from the University made under the provisions of the Patriot Act.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of November 16, 2004 were approved unanimously and with no changes.

Research Restrictions at UCSF

At the request of UC Senate Chair George Blumenthal, each of the ten UC campuses will provide feedback to the Academic Council regarding the University Committee on Research Policy Resolution on Restrictions on Research Funding Sources. UCSF Senate Chair, Leonard Zegans established a task force to provide recommendations relating to this resolution. This task force is comprised of members from the committees on Academic Freedom, Academic Planning and Budget, and Research and the faculty councils of each of
the four schools, with Committee on Research representative, Kit Chesla, serving as chair. Jim Lightwood is representing the Committee on Academic Freedom on the task force.

At the request of the task force, committee members considered the resolution and deliberated as to whether to recommend that it be accepted, modified, or rejected. The Committee identified several key issues:

The resolution prohibits any unit within the University from adopting a policy restricting funding from a particular source. Should the resolution be rejected and individual units allowed to restrict research funding sources, the academic freedom of faculty members could potentially be compromised in instances where a faculty member’s only appointment is with a single department as opposed to faculty members who might also have appointments in a Center or Organized Research Unit (ORU). If the Center or ORU were to adopt a policy to restrict funding from a particular source, a faculty member would be able to terminate their relationship with the Center or Unit, and still retain their departmental affiliation. The reverse would not be true and it would be impossible to renounce departmental membership. Committee members expressed concerned that faculty who may not be in agreement with such a policy would not have recourse to remove themselves from the department and would be obliged to accept a policy with which they do not agree.

Several non-governmental funding sources have adopted policies which restrict funding to institutions which do not refuse funding from certain industries. The resolution as written would prevent units from accepting funding from a certain source by prohibiting them from complying with the funding restriction requirements of these sources. For example – the American Legacy Foundation “will not award a grant to any applicant that is in current receipt of any grant monies or in-kind contribution from any tobacco manufacturer, distributor, or other tobacco-related entity”. The UCORP Resolution may prevent units of the University accepting funds from the Legacy Foundation because they will be unable to implement policies prohibiting funding from the tobacco industry. [The Committee, as part of a larger Senate effort, considered the wider issues related to whether or not UCSF should adopt a policy to reject funding from the tobacco industry in 2003-2004. Details of their debate and actions are available by clicking here].

In prohibiting any unit within the University from adopting a policy restricting funding from a particular source, the policy would deny faculty the opportunity to voluntarily restrict funding sources for their unit. Such a prohibition would deny units the ability to restrict funding sources as a means of assuring the unbiased nature of their research and might undermine the credibility of their work.

Following extensive discussion of these three issues, the Committee agreed to recommend that the resolution be accepted with modifications which address the concerns outlined above. Committee members will draft and distribute a memo for editing by email prior to the next meeting of the Task Force which will take place on Monday, February 7, 2005.

Discussion of Proposed Symposium

The Committee briefly discussed ongoing planning for a symposium on “Science, Government and Academic Freedom in a Polarized Political Environment”.

Chair Eisner informed the Committee that two invitees had accepted the invitation to speak at the symposium and responses are expected from other invitees shortly.
New Business

None.

Old Business

None.

The meeting adjourned at 10:01 a.m.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee Member</th>
<th>09/22</th>
<th>10/19</th>
<th>11/16</th>
<th>12/21</th>
<th>01/18</th>
<th>02/15</th>
<th>03/15</th>
<th>04/19</th>
<th>05/17</th>
<th>06/21</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mark Eisner (Chair)</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuart Gansky (Vice-Chair)</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paula Braveman</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stephen Gitelman</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim Lightwood</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard Pollick</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victor Reus</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meg Wallhagen</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td>Present</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Excused Absence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prepared by:
Elizabeth Langdon-Gray
Senior Senate Analyst
476-1307 / elangdon-gray@senate.ucsf.edu