



Committee on Academic Freedom
Miriam Kuppermann, Chair

ANNUAL REPORT
2008-2009

Primary Focus Points for the Year:

- Symposium on Academic/Industry Relations: Science and Academic Freedom in the Context of Academic/Industry Collaborations
- Amendment of Senate Bylaws 125.A.4, 128, and 130.
- UCSF Continuing Medical Education/UCSF Faculty on Industry Speakers Bureaus

Issue(s) for Next Year (2009-2010)

- Symposium on Academic/Industry Relations

2008-2009 Members

Miriam Kuppermann, PhD, MPH, Chair

Roberta Rehm, RN, PhD, Vice Chair

Descartes Li, MD

Teri Melese, PhD

Katherine Yang, PharmD, MPH

C. Anthony Hunt, PhD

Arthur Miller, PhD

Maurice Zwass, MD

Elizabeth Smith, PhD

Number of Meetings: 5

Senate Analyst: Kathleen Dargan

<http://senate.ucsf.edu/0-committee/a-acf.html>

Division Business

This year, the Academic Senate Committee on Academic Freedom took up the following issue related to the San Francisco Division:

Symposium on Academic/Industry Relations: Science and Academic Freedom in the Context of Academic/Industry Collaborations

In February 2009, the Committee on Academic Freedom submitted a communication to Chair David Gardner proposing a panel-led discussion that would describe the changes in biomedical science and the academic environment that have increased the motivation to engage in collaborations with industry and the need to consider the potential impacts of such collaborations on academic freedom. The symposium would also include discussions of how to design and promote collaborations that would ensure the protection of academic freedom while achieving mutually beneficial goals.

While still in the planning stages, it is anticipated that the symposium will be held in late Fall, 2009. Teri Melese and Kathy Yang are leading the planning efforts, and will help moderate the symposium.

UCSF Continuing Medical Education/UCSF Faculty on Industry Speakers Bureaus

The UCSF Continuing Medical Education Governing Board approved a change that would ban UCSF faculty members who are on industry-sponsored speakers' bureaus from participating in UCSF continuing medical educations on any content related to the speaker's bureau. This is similar to the ruling made by the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Chair Miriam Kuppermann submitted a response to Director Heather Alden noting that the Committee on Academic Freedom had no objections to this change.

Systemwide Business

Proposed Amendments to Senate Bylaws 125.A.4, 128, and 130

In August, 2009, the Systemwide Senate requested comments from the Committee on Academic Freedom regarding the addition of the chair of the University Committee on Academic Freedom to the Academic Council as a standing member and changing the standard term of the UCAF chair from one year to two years. The Committee submitted a communication to Chair David Gardner supporting these changes. ([Appendix 2](#))

Going Forward

Ongoing issue under review or actions that the Committee will continue into 2009-2010:

Symposium on Academic/Industry Relations: Science and Academic Freedom in the Context of Academic/Industry Collaborations

Faculty Reimbursement of Grant Cost Overruns

The Committee on Academic Freedom looks to the Joint Task Force on Cost Overruns to continue in its quest for:

1. Clear, written campus-wide policies detailing methods to prevent and processes for managing of grant cost overruns should be established; and
2. Clear, written campus-wide policies on types of disciplinary actions to which faculty may be subject and steps for faculty who dispute such actions also should be established.
3. These policies must emphasize the shared nature of the responsibility and the recognition that Departments who do not provide timely information to investigators cannot hold investigators solely responsible for overruns; and
4. A special task force or committee to draft and circulate these policies should be appointed. This committee should include representatives from all academic series (including the Adjunct and Clinical series) and should include both senior and junior faculty members.

Appendices

[Appendix 1:](#) Communication Regarding Science and Academic Freedom in the Context of Academic/Industry Collaborations (February 24, 2009)

[Appendix 2:](#) Communication Regarding the Proposed Amendment to Senate Bylaws 125.A.4, 128, and 130 to Chair David Gardner (November 5, 2009)

Senate Staff:
Kathleen Dargan/Senate Analyst
kdargan@senate.ucsf.edu; 476-1308



Communication from the Committee on Academic Freedom Miriam Kuppermann, Chair

February 24, 2009

PROPOSAL FOR SYMPOSIUM SPONSORED BY UCSF ACADEMIC SENATE

TITLE: “Science and Academic Freedom in the Context of Academic/Industry Collaborations”

Background

Science has become so complex that it can no longer be done in a single laboratory, university or even within a single nation. The cost of enabling technology is high, creating momentum towards academic-industry collaborations. Moreover, academic research supported by government money is frequently expected to provide demonstrable benefit to the public. Whereas the goal in funding academic research in the past has been about creating new knowledge and disseminating that knowledge, it is now about a real need for knowledge and data sharing that helps to advance the thinking and direction of university research programs and companies’ developmental programs.

Life science companies are also under pressure to produce clinically beneficial therapeutics. Developing accurate and unbiased testing procedures and technologies requires scientific expertise which may not be available in the corporate world, and indeed, may for the sake of credibility, of necessity come from elsewhere. These companies have increasingly begun to look to universities to fill the science innovation gaps.

Our committee has discussed the growing presence of pharma- and other biotech-funded research on our campus and within the university system. Since the beginning of 2008 alone, Merck, GlaxoSmithKline, Astra Zeneca and Pfizer have all established multi-million dollar, multi-year collaborations with academic institutes (Hughes, B. *Nat.Rev. Drug Discov.* **7**, 631-632 2008, Jarvis, L.H. *Chem. Eng. News* **86**, 13-20 2008). Many members of the scientific community believe that these partnerships, if structured properly, have the potential to further knowledge and translate that knowledge into the development of diagnostic and therapeutic interventions. However, others voice concern about how such research collaborations will affect academic freedom.

The new agreement structures developed to manage these collaborations include joint steering committees to decide upon the research goals and milestones to hold participants to completion of specific goals in a given time-frame. Such terms have generated dynamic debate about the potential consequences on academic freedom in the context of these collaborations.

UCSF, one of eleven University of California campuses, is one of the leading biomedical research and health science educational centers in the world. The UCSF Academic Senate is proposing to sponsor a Symposium at which experts and our audience will explore how we can productively integrate university and industry research collaborations while protecting the fundamental issues of the university’s primary mission; that is, conducting research to provide scientifically based information without bias to expand the

knowledge base on which medical, dental, pharmacological and nursing diagnosis and treatment is based.

Format

The symposium will begin with a brief review of what academic freedom means, and then expand to a panel of experts discussing how we can effectively improve the interaction between the university and industry while protecting the underlying concepts that drive these two separate entities. The symposium will have 15-minute lectures provided by each of four or five invited speakers that represent different perspectives on how the relationships between industry and the university might affect academic freedom. A roundtable discussion will follow that will address questions from the UCSF faculty and other members of the audience. Illustrative case studies will likely be discussed.

Specific Areas To Be Covered

- How can government support its mandate of increasing the impact of science for public benefit? What does “public benefit” mean, particularly for a public university?
- In what way does Industry influence the conduct of scientific research – funding, oversight, and dissemination of information? Might industry/academic partnerships affect academic freedom by shifting the mission of the University?
- Are the means and methods available to UCSF faculty members for achieving UC’s mission and successfully advancing their careers changing?
- Does the absence of sufficient untied funds to accomplish the academic mission of the university increase dependence on industry funding? If so, does it change our ability to defend academic freedom if or when it is threatened? Do we need new structures/laws/definitions to safeguard this ability?

Timeline

The Committee for Academic Freedom is proposing to hold the symposium in the Fall of 2009.

Sponsor

UCSF Academic Senate and the Committee for Academic Freedom

Possible Panel Speakers to Consider

Potential Moderators: Teri Melese and Katherine Yang

- Dr. Steven Beckwith, VP Research, UC Office of the President
- Dr. Corey Goodman, President, Biotherapeutics and Bioinnovation Center, Pfizer.
- Henry Chesbrough, Executive Director Innovation Center, UC Berkeley Haas School of Business
- Dr. Tad Vail, Chair Orthopedic Surgery, UCSF
- Dr. Glenna Dowling, Chair of Physiological Nursing, UCSF
- Dr. Keith Yamamoto, Executive Vice Dean, School Of Medicine
- Dr. Mary Anne Koda-Kimble, Dean School of Pharmacy
- Dr. Lisa Bero, Professor Clinical Pharmacy, UCSF
- Dr. Joseph Guglielmo, Chair Clinical Pharmacy, UCSF
- Someone to talk specifically about impact on the educational mission of the University? (Academic freedom applies to classroom activity as well as research activity)
- Dr. S. Claiborne Johnston, Professor Neurology, Director of the Clinical Translational Science Institute, UCSF

Senate Staff:
Kathleen Dargan, Analyst
kdargan@senate.ucsf.edu, 415-476-1308

University of California
San Francisco



Academic Senate
senate.ucsf.edu

Communication from the Committee on Academic Freedom
Miriam Kuppermann, Ph.D., M.P.H., Chair

November 5, 2008

David Gardner, MD
Chair, UCSF Academic Senate
500 Parnassus Avenue, Box 0764

Re: Review of request by the *University Committee on Academic Freedom to change Senate by-laws and add UCAF to Council*

Dear Chair Gardner,

On Wednesday, October 8, 2008, the Committee on Academic Freedom reviewed the request by the University Committee on Academic Freedom to change Senate by-laws and add UCAF to Council. These proposed changes were submitted to the San Francisco Division for review and comment. The Committee is in support of this change.

Sincerely,

The Committee on Academic Freedom

Miriam Kuppermann, PhD, MPH, Chair
Roberta Rehm, RN, PhD, Vice Chair
Descartes Li, MD
Teri Melese, PhD
C. Anthony Hunt, PhD
Arthur Miller, PhD
Maurice Zwass, MD
Elizabeth Smith, PhD

Senate Staff:
Wilson Hardcastle, Senior Analyst
wilson.hardcastle@ucsf.edu; 415/476-4245