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May 31, 2007

ROBERT C. DYNES
PRESIDENT

Re: Academic Senate Response to the Proposed Policy Restricting University Acceptance of Funding From the Tobacco Industry

Dear Bob,

At its May 9, 2007 meeting, the Assembly of the Academic Senate voted against adopting RE-89, the proposed Regents' Policy Restricting University Acceptance of Funding from the Tobacco Industry. The motion brought before the Assembly was to oppose RE-89; the vote in favor of that motion was 44 in favor, five opposed, with three abstentions.*

As you will recall, when The Regents considered RE-89 at their January 18, 2007, meeting, they asked for the Senate's formal and unambiguous position on the proposal. Accordingly, I sent RE-89 out for systemwide Senate review on February 26, 2007, asking Committees and Divisions of the Senate to express an opinion either in favor of or in opposition to the proposal. An additional request for Senate comment then came from Regent Moores, who, in a letter to me dated January 23, 2007, posed a series of questions concerning the faculty position on RE-89. A response to those questions was drafted by an Academic Council working group and forwarded to Regents Moores in my letter of March 20, 2007 (enclosed). The working group's response was circulated as well to all agencies of the systemwide Academic Senate to assist in their review of RE-89. Of the 17 Senate bodies that responded to the systemwide review of RE-89, one voted in favor; 15 voted against; and one abstained.

* This is the final, official vote tally. The originally reported tally was 43 in favor, four opposed, with three abstentions. The revised tally reported at the May Regents meeting was 43 in favor, five opposed, with two abstentions. The difficulty was caused by our method for recording the eligibility to vote and votes cast by alternate members, which we will revise for future meetings. The official tally reported herein — 44 in favor, five opposed, with three abstentions — has been confirmed by comparing the tally sheets with the audio recording of the proceedings of the meeting.

At its April 25, 2007, meeting, the Academic Council considered the outcome of this review and passed the following resolution: “The Academic Council recommends that the Assembly oppose RE-89.” The vote of the Academic Council on that resolution was 15 in favor, one opposed.

All Committee and Division responses from the systemwide review of RE-89 were included for the Assembly’s consideration in the May 9, 2007, *Notice of Meeting*. As noted above, the motion before the Assembly at that meeting was that the Assembly oppose adoption of RE-89. After a relatively brief debate of the motion in which opinions on both sides of the issue were heard, a roll-call vote was taken, resulting in a strong Senate majority in opposition to the adoption of RE-89. Again, the official tally of that vote was 44 Assembly members in favor of the Council’s resolution opposing adoption of RE-89, five Assembly members opposed to the Council’s resolution, with three Assembly members present but abstaining from voting. I was also present, but did not vote — as the presiding officer of the Assembly I cast a vote only when necessary to break a tie.

Please transmit this letter to The Regents for distribution in connection with their consideration of RE-89 at the July Regents’ meeting.

Sincerely,



John B. Oakley, Chair
Academic Senate

Copy: Academic Assembly
María Bertero-Barceló, Senate Director

Enclosures: [Response to Regent Moores Regarding Questions Around The Regents' Proposed RE-89 - Adoption of a Policy Restricting University Acceptance of Funding from the Tobacco Industry.](#)
May, 9, 2007, [Notice of Meeting of the Assembly of the Academic Senate](#) (pp. 35-69).

JB/BJP