

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, ACADEMIC SENATE

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Assembly of the Academic Senate, Academic Council
University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

June 4, 2003

C. JUDSON KING, PROVOST and SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Re: Proposed Revisions of Academic Title-APM 310 (Professional Research Series); the new APM 311 (Project Scientist Series); and Technical Changes to APM 620-124 (Off-Scale Salaries)

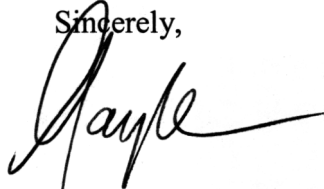
Dear Jud:

In response to your February 28, 2003 letter requesting Academic Council review and comment on the Proposed Revisions to the Academic Research Titles as noted above, I solicited input from both Divisional and Systemwide Senate Committees. Their letters are attached for your consideration.

It became clear to the Academic Council, both from Committee responses and from the discussion that took place at Council's May 21 meeting, that this proposed change does not serve a Systemwide need because it does not have the same meaning, importance or consequence for each of the campuses. Therefore, by unanimous vote of the Academic Council, I am returning this proposal with the recommendation that it be redrafted to address a number of questions including: the intent of the proposed revision, the implementation expectations, the consequences for people currently in these titles, and the PI issue. Most importantly, it is recommended that there be a serious reconsideration of the salary structure. As currently proposed, the Project Scientists in the health sciences would experience a 15% reduction in salary from the current standard professorial scale, while Project Scientists in the business, management, and engineering schools would receive an increase as high as 10% above the professorial scale presumably due to market forces. As pointed out by the San Diego Division, Project Scientists in the health sciences can earn much more in the biotechnology arena, making UC's programs less competitive than at present. In addition, there is the equity issue raised by the Davis Division with respect to the Specialist series - APM 330, which has considerable overlap with the APM 310 and 311 series.

Since the Project Scientist series originated on the San Diego campus in recognition of the important role that doctoral level colleagues play in research laboratories, I refer you to the UCSD Divisional Chair's May 19, 2003 letter, with attachments, that he submitted in response to this proposal. His letter articulates the concerns raised by many of the Senate respondents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gayle", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gayle Binion, Chair
Academic Council

Encl.: 10
Copy: Academic Council