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UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE ON PLANNING AND BUDGET (UCPB) Michael Parrish, Chair mparrish@ucsd.edu

The Academic Council 1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor Oakland, CA 94607-5200 Phone: (510) 987-9467 Fax: (510) 763-0309

March 16, 2005

GEORGE BLUMENTHAL Chair, Academic Council

RE: BOARS Report on the PSAT/National Merit Scholarship Program

Dear George:

Members of the University Committee on Planning and Budget believe that BOARS has raised several troubling questions regarding the validity and efficacy of the National Merit Scholarship Program, specifically its impact on the distribution of undergraduate financial assistance across the campuses.

We urge, therefore, that the concerns voiced by BOARS be brought to the attention of other Senate committees and each division in order to pursue these issues further through appropriate Senate channels and, hopefully, through the Office of the President and the campus administrations.

Respectfully submitted, /s/
Michael E. Parrish
Chair, UCPB

cc: UCPB

Executive Director Bertero-Barcelo Michael T. Brown, BOARS Chair Kimberly Peterson, BOARS analyst