



June 6, 2019

**STATEMENT OF THE UC ACADEMIC COUNCIL ON THE
CURTAILMENT OF FETAL TISSUE RESEARCH**

The Academic Council of the University of California's Academic Senate strongly condemns the politically expedient decision by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to significantly curtail support for research using fetal tissues. We stand firmly with our colleagues at UC San Francisco, the intramural program at the NIH, and scientists throughout the country who conduct this crucial and already highly regulated research, essential to the development of effective treatments for debilitating and life-threatening diseases, including Alzheimer's, hemophilia, HIV, and eye disease. The Academic Council has spoken out previously against political attacks on science and academic freedom that threaten not only UC research, but also the nation's economic prosperity, the health of its population, and the nation's global scientific leadership. We re-assert this stance, and join UC President Napolitano and UCSF Chancellor Hawgood in calling for continued and sustained efforts to maintain support of this vital scientific research.

For the Academic Council,

Handwritten signature of Robert C. May in brown ink.

Robert C. May
Chair, Academic Council

Handwritten signature of Kum-Kum Bhavnani in black ink.

Kum- Kum Bhavnani
Vice-Chair, Academic Council