March 31, 2010

ADMINISTRATIVE VICE CHANCELLORS
DIRECTOR, LAWRENCE BERKELEY NATIONAL LABORATORY MEDICAL CENTER CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS VICE PRESIDENT – AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Re: Executive Support for UC Ready Mission Continuity Efforts

Dear Colleagues:

Every week brings news of disaster events that disrupt people’s lives and work. Earthquakes, wildfires, pandemics, and local events like building fires, IT interruptions, acts of violence and so many others – the one constant is that we do not know what is coming next.

All of our locations – campuses, medical centers, national labs – have public safety staff, emergency management staff, and counseling staff who dedicate themselves to the preservation of life, health, property, and good order. It is imperative that we continue to support and listen to these colleagues.

I write today to call your attention to a recent addition to our readiness efforts – the UC Ready mission continuity program. UC Ready, as you know, is a departmentally-focused program that aims to make our teaching, research and public service functions more resilient to any type of disruption.

Fifteen UC locations (ten campuses, two medical centers, ANR, LBNL and UCOP) now have the UC Ready program in place and operating. In recognition of the value of this program, the Office of the President provides significant funding – a 50 percent match for local continuity planning staff, plus 100 percent funding for the development and support of the UC Ready web tool. In addition to funding, we have taken other steps to ensure that UC Ready is a well-managed program that delivers real benefits, including a set of progressive metrics for tracking and accountability. Our first target is 10 percent coverage by December 2010 (10 percent of departments at each location having complete and current plans). We seek 100% coverage by December 2014. Other universities are emulating our efforts – as evidenced by the decision of eight U.S. and Canadian universities to jointly fund a public launch of our UC Ready web tool under the auspices of the Kuali Foundation.
Most of you are already supporting the UC Ready program with your leadership and your budget allocations. I encourage you to explore with your local continuity staff whether there are additional ways you can use your leadership pulpit to help your campus achieve its continuity planning goals. Because continuity planning requires the engagement of almost every departmental unit across the institution, messages of support and direction from top leadership are needed and can make all the difference.

Thank you for your support of this essential program. While the budget environment leaves all of us – and all of our units – severely challenged, the need to be ready for disruptive events is undiminished. Please let me know of any way my office can assist.

Sincerely,

Nathan Brostrom
Executive Vice President

cc: Executive Vice President Taylor
    Vice President Broome
    Chief Risk Officer Crickette
    Manager Charbonneau
    Manager Confetti
    Manager Dimond
    Business Continuity Program Coordinators