



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT –
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

August 3, 2012

EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLORS
VICE CHANCELLORS OF RESEARCH
EH&S DIRECTORS

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing regarding actions the University of California is continuing to undertake in the wake of the tragic lab accident in December 2008 that took the life of research associate Sheri Sagnji. Since then, UCLA has strived to become a model for laboratory safety for other University of California campuses and universities throughout the nation. The recent settlement dismissing the criminal charges against the UC Regents related to this tragedy recognizes the significant improvements that UCLA has made, while also recognizing that improving our research and laboratory operations is a continuous process that includes all of our campuses.

Efforts have been under way for nearly two-and-a-half years to enhance safety across all UC campuses. While the recent settlement is specific to Chemistry and Biochemistry Departments, laboratory accidents can occur in any location, in any scientific discipline. We need to continue to do everything possible to ensure safe procedures in all labs across the UC system, and properly prepare the next generation of scientists through our teaching and modeling of safe practices to be used in today's scientific fields.

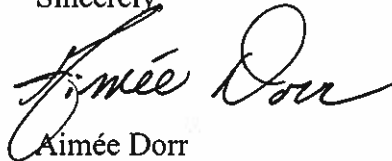
While your campus Environment, Health and Safety Department will play a significant role in ensuring that the requirements of the agreement are met, those obligations cannot be fulfilled without the leadership of the faculty and the commitment, cooperation, and collaboration of researchers and laboratory personnel. That collaboration has already begun at the systemwide level with a meeting of stakeholders that occurred last Friday, July 27, to discuss in detail the settlement agreement and the resources that will be provided at the systemwide level. Participants included Vice Chancellors of Research, General Counsel, Compliance, EH&S Directors, Chemical/Laboratory Safety Committee Chairs, and senior leadership of the Academic Senate.

The UCOP Office of Risk Services has taken the lead in coordinating systemwide resources to assist campuses and has developed the UC Lab Safety SharePoint site where all settlement related documents and other material are available to the campus community. Additionally, you will find information regarding the efforts of the Office of Risk Services and Campus EH&S Directors in developing systemwide solutions to improve laboratory safety that will help

campuses meet the settlement requirements, and, more important, will continue our efforts to improve the culture of safety in all of our activities. Further information regarding how to access the UC Lab Safety SharePoint site is set forth on the attached document.

We are all striving to make UC a leader in lab safety, and UC leadership is committed to working with staff and faculty to achieve that goal.

Sincerely



Aimée Dorr
Provost and Executive Vice President
Academic Affairs

Attachment

Cc Academic Council Chair Anderson
Academic Council Vice Chair Powell
Senior Vice President Vacca
Vice President Beckwith
Vice President Mara
Vice President and General Counsel Robinson
Assistant Vice President VanNess
Chief Risk Officer Crickette
EHS Director Young
Executive Director Winnacker
Interim Chief of Staff Greenspan