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April 26, 2013

The Honorable Jim Frazier
Chair, Assembly Accountability and Administrative Review Committee
1020 N Street, Room 357
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 609 (Nestande), as amended April 23, 2013
Scheduled for hearing in Assembly Accountability and Administrative Review Committee on May 1, 2013
Position: SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Frazier:

The University of California (UC) is pleased to support AB 609 (Nestande), which would enact the California Taxpayer Access to Publicly Funded Research Act. AB 609 would require state agencies to develop public access policies for the research grants they award. Under these policies, UC faculty and other researchers who receive a state agency-funded research grant would be required to submit electronic copies of final peer-reviewed manuscripts generated from the research grant no later than 12 months after the work is published. The research publications would be made freely accessible to the public through an online digital repository.

Scholars at the University of California have a vested interest in ensuring that their work reaches the widest possible audience, including members of the public whose tax dollars support the University's research. Unfortunately the increasing cost of journal subscriptions in recent years often acts to restrict access to research results. This increasing restriction on the dissemination of research results runs counter to the spirit in which UC faculty, researchers and students undertake their scholarly activity. Accordingly UC is supportive of efforts, such as AB 609, to make research as widely accessible as possible. We commend Assembly Member Nestande for his leadership on this important issue.

As always, the University appreciates your consideration of our views. Should you have any questions about the University's support position on AB 609, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916) 327-3299.

Sincerely,

Adrian Diaz
Legislative Director

cc: Assembly Member Brian Nestande
Members, Assembly Accountability and Administrative Review Committee
President Mark G. Yudof
Provost Aimée Dorr
Senior Vice President Daniel Dooley
Associate Vice President and Director Steve Juarez

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