



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT - RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 Franklin Street, 11th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

June 5, 2020

Margaret Weichert
Deputy Director of Management
Office of Management and Budget
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

Sent Electronically to: margaret.m.weichert@omb.eop.gov

RE: Request to Extend OMB Memo M-20-17, dated March 19, 2020

Dear Ms. Weichert:

The University of California (UC) system is comprised of ten research-intensive campuses, six medical schools, and three affiliated U.S. Department of Energy national laboratories. Our research portfolio exceeds \$7 billion per year, making UC the largest higher education recipient of federal research investments. Thus, we are most grateful for the administrative flexibilities provided in OMB Memorandum M-20-17, "*Administrative Relief for Recipients and Applicants of Federal Financial Assistance Directly Impacted by the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) due to Loss of Operations.*" These flexibilities were critical for enabling our researchers to continue their work on their federal awards and on research, treatment, and operational solutions to COVID-19, even as the country faces an unprecedented public health crisis.

As you know, the current flexibilities offered in M-20-17 expire on June 17, 2020. Although our UC research enterprise is eager for a return to steady state, we are not there yet due to the unpredictable nature of this pandemic. However, we have developed detailed, responsible plans to ramp up on-campus research capacities beyond essential research, while ensuring that our personnel remain safe as the highest priority. We anticipate phased approaches and continued disruptions until effective treatments and a vaccine are in place for COVID-19.

Given ongoing uncertainty, we request that OMB extend the flexibilities outlined in M-20-17 through September 30, 2020 and work with higher education stakeholders to determine how to approach the situation beyond the new federal fiscal year.

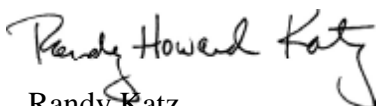
UC values its partnership with federal science agencies. Extending these flexibilities would be a prudent measure to ensure the viability and continuity of our mutually beneficial research enterprise. As history has taught us, advancing research, especially at a time of dire national

challenges, will position the United States on a strong road to economic recovery and societal well-being.

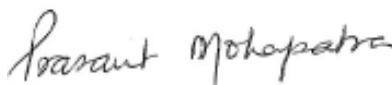
Sincerely,



Theresa A. Maldonado, Ph.D., P.E.
Vice President for Research & Innovation



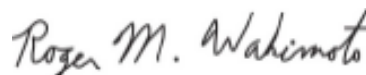
Randy Katz
Vice Chancellor for Research
University of California, Berkeley



Prasant Mohapatra
Vice Chancellor for Research
University of California, Davis



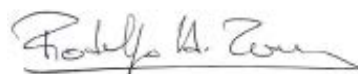
Pramod Khargonekar
Vice Chancellor for Research
University of California, Irvine



Roger Wakimoto
Vice Chancellor for Research
University of California, Los Angeles



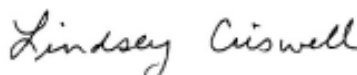
Samuel J. Traina
Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic
Development
University of California, Merced



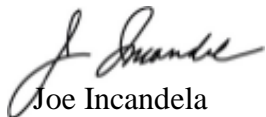
Rodolfo Torres
Vice Chancellor for Research and Economic
Development
University of California, Riverside



Sandra Brown
Vice Chancellor for Research
University of California, San Diego



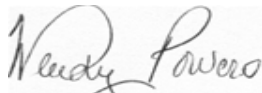
Lindsey Criswell
Vice Chancellor for Research
University of California, San Francisco



Joe Incandela
Vice Chancellor for Research
University of California, Santa Barbara



Scott Brandt
Vice Chancellor for Research
University of California, Santa Cruz



Wendy Powers
Associate Vice President
Agriculture & Natural Resources