



Department of Medicine

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February 21, 2006

TO: Talmadge King, MD
Paul Volberding, MD
Moffitt-Long Division Chiefs

FR: Lee Goldman, MD

RE: **Revised PI Status Policy for Professional Research and
Specialist Series**

On August 30, 2005, the Department of Medicine instituted specific conditions to allow individuals in the professional research and specialist series in the Department to submit grants as a principal investigator. These conditions included either a) active or pending applications as a principal investigator with no history of incurring overdrafts or b) commitment by the relevant division or service chief to recommend the individual for a faculty appointment in the Adjunct Series upon the award of the grant. This policy was implemented because a number of these professional researchers had substantial overdrafts on their accounts, and these overdrafts had been covered by departmental funds.

Since the implementation of this policy, several senior faculty have asked that this new policy be reviewed, mainly because many people in the professional research series should not be preparing for a faculty position at UCSF. Nonetheless, individuals in the series greatly contribute to their mentors' research activities and prepare themselves for a variety of careers.

Based on this feedback, the following revised conditions are effective immediately regarding the Department's support of grant applications by individuals in the Professional Research and Specialists Series.

1. The mentoring faculty member and the corresponding Division must commit to the financial and programmatic responsibility to cover any deficits on a grant awarded to a Professional Researcher or Specialist. Both the

mentor and Division Chief must stipulate and concur to this commitment in the Chief's letter that accompanies every proposal.

2. To address any misconception that this series is a transition to a faculty position, clearly written offer letters must be provided to the individual regarding the expectations of their title, the fact that it is not a faculty track position, and the fact that no independent space has been committed now or in the future to the individual. This letter must be co-signed by the Professional Researcher or Specialist.

Please recall that the Specialist Series (but not the Professional Research Series) requires a waiver of PI Status to submit proposals at UCSF. The aforementioned conditions must be followed for the PI Waiver to be signed by the Department.

The Department is committed to facilitating the research endeavors of our faculty, while simultaneously meeting our fiduciary responsibilities. It is hoped that this revised policy will fulfill both objectives.

cc: Sally Marshall, PhD
Donna Ferriero, MD
Martha Hooven
Gail Keeley
Cynthia Lynch
Suzanne Sutton