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Notes	HUMAN USE COMMITTEE
Found By	Karen Holmes
Date:	

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BERKELEY: DONNER LABORATORY

SEP 17 1986

September 8, 1986

Refer to: 86RM166

TO: Campus Human Use Committee

FR: Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory Principal Investigators

RE: Proposed CPHS Reorganization

As researchers at Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, we conduct research on human subjects under protocols approved by CPHS. Many of our research protocols involve use of radiation or radioisotopes; these protocols are reviewed in advance by the LBL Human Use Committee and in certain cases by the Radioactive Drug Research Committee. The first mentioned of these committees in fact was in operation for many years before the CPHS. We have operated for many years in close cooperation with CPHS, during which we have experienced no significant problems in communication with staff. We felt that CPHS has operated with efficiency and an approach to research which showed concern for human subjects' rights and safety, and with a collaborative, non-litigious relationship with researchers.

It is therefore with concern that we have learned of the Committee's planned reorganization, in an unsigned letter presumably written by the chairman, dated 29 August 86. The letter announced an "open meeting" on September 3 and a closed meeting for "final disposition" on September 5. Such peremptory action does not provide adequate time for open discussion among affected parties. At the meeting on September 3, which only a few of us were able to attend due to the short notice, the faculty present almost uniformly expressed disapproval of the plan for reorganization. LBL researchers, who constitute a large part of CPHS protocols, had little or no time or opportunity for comment. Thus, we wish to mention specific points on which we are particularly concerned:

- [1] It is proposed to eliminate the position of the executive secretary, Mr. Dobie Jenkins, who has been extremely efficient and helpful to the Committee and to researchers. Without a full time, highly experienced administrator, the function of the CPHS and communication with PI's could be seriously impaired.
- [2] Use of graduate students to perform summary and screening functions is inappropriate, and puts the investigator at risk of his proposal and time being compromised by a trainee's misinterpretation or inaccurate representation.
- [3] Use of students on the CPHS as an educational function might be an inappropriate use of the administrative funds designated for carrying out our IRB activities.

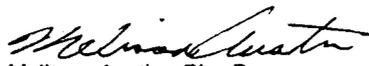
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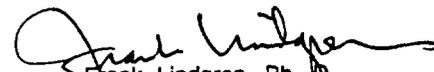
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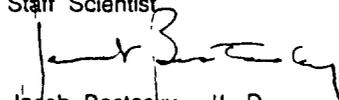
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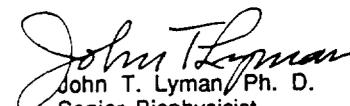
We do not disagree that some reorganization may be appropriate to make the function of CPHS smoother and more efficient, but we believe that the precipitous moves proposed are without adequate justification and precedent. They require much more discussion among campus and LBL researchers. We also feel that University and NIH policies might not permit such reorganization at the discretion of the chairman, as appears to be happening at present.

We therefore ask that the existing staff, organization and procedure be maintained in effect until full and open discussion can be effected.

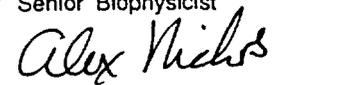
  
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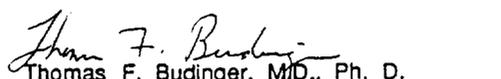
  
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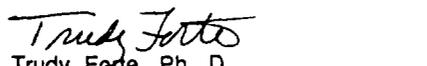
  
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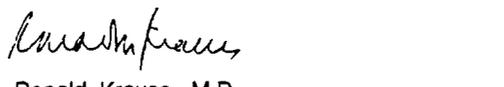
  
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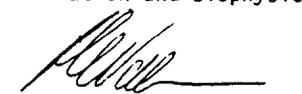
  
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