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Dear Colleague:

I am writing to update you regarding the current status of the CA HIV/AIDS Research Program (CHRP). As you are aware, the 2011-12 State budget proposed by Governor Brown includes a \$500 million reduction in funding to the University of California. Because of this severe reduction, many programs funded directly from the Office of the President are being considered for potential decreases in funding. However, despite this difficult budget climate, the current UC budget for fiscal year 2011-12 assumes that funding for the CHRP will be maintained at (or near) its current level. While we are encouraged by this positive development, we continue to maintain caution until a final State budget is passed and signed.


In anticipation of a final State budget, we are planning to begin the paperwork for funding of grantees (those grantees currently on hold who were peer-reviewed last November but awaiting initial payment). A preliminary funding process will begin sometime after July 1, 2011, but grantees should be apprised that **funding will not be released unless a State budget is signed that includes adequate funding for CHRP**. All new grantees who have received a Funding Recommendation Letter (including those who originally received the letter, but were later placed on “pay-if” status) will be contacted by CHRP regarding additional pre-award requirements (changes in effort or other support, assurances, and other documentation needed to prepare award notices and agreements). However, the specific award start dates will not be set, and funding will not be transferred, until a State budget is signed.

As stated in a previous announcement, we are pleased that we will be able to fully fund all continuing grantees until the end of their normal grant completion date (contingent upon satisfactory grantee progress and no significant reductions to the CHRP budget). This will ensure the continuation of the important HIV/AIDS research projects and infrastructure in California.

In addition to the actions outlined above, we have also decided to release our planned Call for Applications sometime in August or September. Given the ongoing uncertainty regarding the State budget, this Call may be limited to fewer award mechanisms than those of the past.

We will keep you informed of further developments as they occur. In the meantime, thank you for your continued dedication to HIV/AIDS research and for the excellent service you continue to provide to the people of California.

Sincerely,



George F. Lemp, Dr.P.H.  
Director, CHRP