

ACADEMIC SENATE EXECUTIVE OFFICE  
LOS ANGELES DIVISION  
3125 MURPHY HALL  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90095-1408

PHONE: (310) 825-3851  
FAX: (310) 206-5273

April 15, 2011

Chancellor Gene D. Block  
UCLA Chancellor's Office  
Box 951405, 2147 Murphy Hall  
Los Angeles, CA 90095-1405

Re: Possible violation of academic freedom in the non-re-appointment of James Enstrom, Ph.D.

Dear Chancellor Block,

This letter is to apprise you of our committee's unanimous concern that the decision by the School of Public Health not to re-appoint James Enstrom, Ph.D. in the Professional Research series may represent a violation of academic freedom. Dr. Enstrom has been conducting epidemiological research in the School of Public Health since the mid-1970s. Since 2004, his appointment has been in the Department of Environmental Health Sciences in the School of Public Health. Throughout this period his research has been supported by extramural funding. This extramural funding has been essential, because it provides the salary support that is necessary for the University to approve Dr. Enstrom's annual re-appointment in the Professional Research series. Indeed, because of this extended period of uninterrupted grant support, Dr. Enstrom has justified regular re-appointment in this academic series. However, last year, in spite of ongoing funding that is projected to last until the end of 2011, Dr. Enstrom was notified that he was to be laid off. Simultaneously, Dr. Enstrom was denied the opportunity to submit further grant applications. He has raised concerns that his non-reappointment was motivated by improper concerns relating to the content of his research and his criticisms of others' research.

This committee fully understands that it is the prerogative of the School of Public Health to make decisions concerning its research, teaching and service missions. Thus, if the School of Public Health has a bona fide rationale for denying Dr. Enstrom's re-appointment and for

