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OFFICE OF THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT— BUSINESS AND FINANCE

Thomas F. Coleman Executive Director American Association for Single Pec 415 E. Harvard, Suite 204 Glendale, CA 91205

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HUMAN RESOURCES AND BENEFITS 300 LAKESIDE DRIVE, 5TH FLOOR OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612-3557

March 25, 2002

(510) 987 - 9220 Serveture Borned MM 15-16?

Dear Mr. Coleman:

Your letter of March 1, 2002 addressed to President Richard Atkinson was directed to me since the administration of benefits falls under the Human Resources and Benefits Department.

In your letter, you voice support for benefits for heterosexual domestic partners and specifically for Vic Pelton and his longtime female partner. The University of California appreciates hearing from the community and your organization.

In past correspondence to Mr. Pelton, most recently on February 28, 2002, we have explained that the University of California regularly evaluates its benefits programs and we continue to work towards increased equity in our benefits coverages. As you know, at this time the University is confronted with significant restraints on the state budget, and a generally weakened economy that is impacting our resources. Unfortunately, at the same time costs for health care and health care coverage are rapidly escalating. These and other issue will receive close attention in the coming months as we continue to monitor our benefits programs. We will continue to examine our benefits program and make necessary changes in order to meet the diverse needs of the UC community, taking into account the current budget situation.

We appreciate your concerns and thank you for taking the time to write to us.

Sincerely,

Lusier W. Bongette

Judith W. Boyette Associate Vice President

cc: President Atkinson Senior Vice President Mullinix Executive Director Ackerhalt Executive Director French

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

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OFFICE OF THE ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT-IMMEDIATE OFFICE

SANTA BARBARA · SANTA CRUZ

HUMAN RESOURCES AND BENEFITS 300 LAKESIDE DRIVE, 12TH FLOOR OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612-3557

February 28, 2002

Vic P. Pelton 5993 Whisperlodge Way Roseville, CA 95747

Dear Mr. Pelton:

I write to acknowledge your letter of January 21, 2002. As you note in your letter, AB-25 has been signed into law by Governor Davis. The bill has many provisions, among them is one that makes health benefits provided to domestic partners exempt from State Income Tax. It is important to note that AB-25 does not obligate employers to provide health care coverage, or other benefits, to domestic partners. As you know, The Regents policy on domestic partners authorizes medical, dental, and vision coverage to same sex domestic partners only.

As I indicated to you in my email message of October 30, 2001, the University regularly evaluates its benefits programs. At the January 2002 meeting of the UC Regents, the University presented a discussion item on Relative Equity of Retirement Benefits. The Regents will study the proposal thoroughly before they consider taking action, which will likely be at their May 2002 meeting. We encourage you to follow the progress on this topic. Results of the Regents' actions will be published on the website at <u>www.ucop.edu/bencom/</u>.

Thank you for taking the time to write and for your interest in the benefit programs that the University offers. Please feel free to continue to contact me for updates on our progress with this matter.

Sincerely, ita W. Boughte

Judith W. Boyette Associate Vice President

cc: Legal Counsel Dana Executive Director Ackerhalt Executive Director French

Office of the President



The Regents

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF THE REGENTS 1111 Franklin St., 12th Floor Oakland, CA 94607 tel (510) 987-9220 fax (510) 987-9224

Please email questions or comments about the Regents' website to Anne.Shaw@ucop.edu

This page last modified: March 1, 2002

Meeting Agendas and Schedule

The Regents meet six times a year in two-day meetings scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday. The dates and locations of the scheduled meetings are listed below. Ten days before each scheduled meeting, the Notice of Meeting (agendas) will be available on this web site. For a media advisory regarding the upcoming meetings, please visit the <u>UC News Room</u>.

PLEASE NOTE: Live audio Internet broadcasts of the open sessions of the meetings are available during each regularly scheduled meeting. You should use the most recent version of <u>RealPlayer for your platform (Windows 95/NT (32-bit), Macintosh, or UNIX)</u>. If you have already downloaded and installed the free software, please join us via the <u>audio broadcast</u> when the meeting is in session.

The meetings may not begin at precisely the scheduled time. If you do not hear the meeting proceedings or a pre-recorded message on the day of a scheduled meeting, The Regents are probably in a closed session or at lunch.

These pages are best viewed with Internet Explorer 4 and above. Make sure to use the most recent version of <u>Acrobat Reader</u>[™] when viewing pdf files.

Meeting Agendas for 2000 and 2001

	Dates	Location
2002	January 16-17	UCLA
	March 4	Special Meeting, Committee on Oversight of the DOE Laboratories
	March 12-14	UCSF - Laurel Heights
	May 15-16	UCLA <
	July 17-18	UCSF - Laurel Heights
	September 18- 19	UCSF - Laurel Heights
	November 14- 15	UCSF - Laurel Heights

NEXT YEAR'S SCHEDULE:

2003 January 15-16 UCSF - Laurel Heights March 19-20 UCSF - Laurel Heights May 14-15 UCLA July 16-17 UCSF - Laurel Heights

Candace Kavanagh

From:Thomas F. ColemanSent:Wednesday, March 13, 2002 4:47 PMTo:vicpelton@aol.comSubject:letter from ucVic,

I got the letter you faxed. It looks like they are considering making a positive change.

Their meeting in May will be in Los Angeles at UCLA on May 15-16. It would be nice it we could get on the agenda to address the issue. You from a personal point of view and me from a policy perspective and as a representative of the larger class.

How about a motor home trip to L.A. that week?

I will inquire into how we get on the agenda.

I and my domestic partner are off to Hawaii for two weeks beginning Monday.

Aloha.

Tom

5993 Whisperlodge Way Roseville, CA 95747 January 21, 2002

Ms Judith Boyette Assoc. Vice President Human Resources and Benefits University of California P. O. Box 24570 Oakland, CA 94623-9909

Dear Ms Boyette,

I retired from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in 1990 and receive my retirement benefits through your office. I have had an opposite sex Domestic Partner for over 18 years. We are registered with the Secretary of State (see attached declaration) and qualify as Domestic Partners under California Family Code, Section 297. Since the University offers benefits to same sex Domestic Partners, I believe that under the terms of AB25 I should be able to obtain benefits for my partner.

All other state agencies and departments and all other state-operated institutions of higher learning provide health and other benefits to domestic partners of retirees. It appears that the University of California is the only agency of state government which denies such benefits to retirees with an opposite-sex domestic partner. This does not seem fair to me.

But perhaps my information is out of date. It would be a pleasure to learn that the UC system has recently updated its benefits program to make it consistent with the Secretary of State's registration system and with the policy and practices of all other state agencies. I'm sure the Regents never intended to deprive UC retirees of benefits which all other state employees and retirees receive.

Please advise what form I can fill out to obtain these benefits. Thank you.

Sincerely,

V. P. Pelton

V. P. Pelton

AASP Assists California Members Seeking Equal Retirement Benefits

AASP Asks University to Give Retirement Benefits to Heterosexual Partners

AASP Executive Director Thomas F. Coleman recently sent a letter to the University of California Board of Trustees asking that heterosexual retirees no longer be excluded from receiving domestic partner benefits. It was sent to reinforce a similar request made by AASP member Vic Pelton.

In 1997, the Trustees voted to expand the University's health benefits plan – which was then limited to spouses of employees and retirees – to cover domestic partners as well. However, as a cost saving device, a decision was made to limit participation to same-sex domestic partners and to exclude unmarried heterosexual couples.

At the time, AASP (then known as Spectrum Institute), told the Trustees that the new program would be inconsistent with the uniform practice by local governments in California to adopt gender-neutral domestic partner programs. The Trustees were also advised that the state Labor Commissioner had ruled that limiting benefits to same-sex couples would violate state law prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination.

Coleman's recent letter to the Trustees notes that expanding the benefits program to include heterosexuals would be appropriate now, considering that:

• The State Legislature gives domestic partner benefits to its own employees, regardless of gender;

 Heterosexual retirees may register as partners with the Secretary of State;

·Heterosexual retirees of the Califor-nia State University system are eligible for domestic partner benefits;

• All other state agencies under the jurisdiction of the Governor and the Legislature provide domestic partner benefits to heterosexual retirees.

Coleman's letter stresses that by adopting gender-neutral benefits for retirees, UC's program will conform with state law, and will show respect for family diversity and honor the right of personal privacy of retirees.



Vic Pelton and Jean Lovetang

January 21, 2002

Ms. Judith Boyette Associate Vice President Human Resources and Benefits University of California

Dear Ms. Boyette,

I retired from the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in 1990 and receive my retirement benefits through your office. I have had an opposite sex Domestic Partner for over 18 years. We are registered with the Secretary of State (see attached declaration) and qualify as Domestic Partners under California Family Code, Section 297. Since the University offers benefits to same sex Domestic Partners, I believe that under the terms of AB25 I should be able to obtain benefits for my partner.

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state agencies. I'm sure the Regents never intended to deprive UC retirees of benefits which all other state employees and retirees receive.

Please advise what form I can fill out to obtain these benefits. Thank you.

Sincerely,

V.P. Pelton

Subject: Re: Domestic Partners Date: Sat, 29 Dec 2001 22:10:52 EST From: Vicpelton@aol.com To: tomcoleman@earthlink.net

I will be faxing you a copy of registration with Sec. of State and proof of retirement. I retired from the Lawrence Livermore Lab. which is operated by UC (see seal) and LLL employees benefits come from UC. There was no written correspondence, all communications were by telephone.

Claudia Wrazel in the Senate Judiciary Committee advised me that under CA Family Code Sect. 297 we qualified as domestic partners. Her phone is (916)445-5957. She referred me to Augie in the Office of Patient Advocate (916)324.6407. He said that he agreed, but would have their attorney check further. The attorney, David Link (213)576-5764 called me and said that he had learned that the Regents of UC were completely autonomous and not bound by any state law. (Isn't that ridiculous?) He suggested lobbying the regents to broaden their definition of domestic partners to comply with what is law for the rest of the state.

I have no objection to bringing the media in or using my story in the next newsletter.

Vic Pelton Phone:(916)771-9400 Fax:(916)771-3279

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LAWRENCE LIVERMORE NATIONAL LABORATORY Vic Pelton

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JOHN H. NUCKOLLS, DIRECTOR