VICE CHANCELLOR JOSEPH CERNY

Delegation of Authority – Expenditures Against Firm Commitments Under Contracts and Grants

Effective immediately, I am redelegating DA 0666 to you as Vice Chancellor for Research. You are authorized to permit expenditures or commitments of funds against any approved research, training, or development contract or grant when a fully extended contract is in hand or a written notice of the grant has been received. Attached for your information is President Saxon’s initial letter of delegation, dated April 14, 1980, which further clarifies the circumstances in which such expenditures are permitted in the absence of the aforementioned documentation.

This delegation of authority may be redelegated to the administrator within your jurisdiction. Please see the attached redelegation form and Chancellor’s directive dated September 13, 1999.

Please contact Manager Susan Combs in the Chancellor’s Communication and Resource Center at 643-7311 or via email at scombs@uclink4.berkeley.edu with any concerns you may have regarding this delegation of authority.

Enclosures

cc:  Vice President C. Judson King
     General Counsel James Holst
     Secretary Leigh Trivette
     Special Assistant Jeanne Gardner
     Assistant Chancellor John Cummins
     Manager Susan Combs

Robert M. Berdahl
Chancellor
DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

Title: Expenditures Against Firm Commitments Under Contracts and Grants

Authority Delegated to: Chancellors
Vice President—Agriculture and University Services

Source of Delegation: Saxon letter of 4/14/80

Effective Date of Delegation: 4/14/80

Delegation

Delegates authority* to permit expenditures against contracts and grants or against firm commitments thereon, provided that the contracts and grants have been solicited or negotiated in accordance with established Regental policy and subject to specified conditions. This authority may not be redelegated.

*Standing Order 100.4(m).

Supersedes 9/6/66 delegation to Chancellors and Vice Presidents and President Hitch's related letter of 12/3/69.
August 26, 1980

Dear Colleagues:

Re: Amendment to April 14, 1980 Delegation of Authority--Expenditures Against Firm Commitments Under Contracts and Grants

Following consideration and review of campus comments and procedures in connection with the above delegation, it appears that the current restriction on redelegation of your authority to permit expenditures against firm commitments under contracts and grants creates unnecessary administrative difficulty. However, because the substance of the April 14, 1980 delegation remains the same, instead of reissuing the delegation I ask that the last sentence, which restricts redelegation, be deleted and the following inserted:

Redelegation of this authority shall be in writing with copies provided to the Vice President--Financial and Business Management, the Assistant President--Coordination and Review, and the Secretary of The Regents.

Sincerely,

David S. Saxon
President

cc: Members, President's Administrative Council
Assistant Vice President Levin
Coordinator Mears
Principal Officers of The Regents
Office of the President

April 14, 1980

CHANCELLORS
VICE PRESIDENT—AGRICULTURE AND
UNIVERSITY SERVICES

Re: Delegation of Authority—Expenditures Against Firm
Commitments Under Contracts and Grants

Section 100.4(m) of the Standing Orders of The Regents
delegates to the President the authority to permit expenditures
against contracts and grants or against firm commitments
thereon, provided that the contracts and grants have been
solicited or negotiated in accordance with established Regental
policy.

I am hereby delegating to you the authority to permit
expenditures or commitments of funds against any approved
research, training, or development contract or grant when a
fully executed contract is in hand or a written notice of
grant award has been received or, in the absence of such
documentation, when (a) the contract or grant is within the
solicitation authority previously delegated to you and you
have satisfied yourself that a firm commitment exists to
reimburse the University for the amount of its own funds
advanced, and (b) there is an essential need to advance or
commit funds (which normally means to pay salaries or meet
other expenses of a continuing project).

For guidance in interpreting what constitutes a "firm
commitment," General Counsel has provided the following:

While firm commitment has no legal definition,
it is obviously something less than a contract.
The phrase is applicable to situations where
University personnel are advised by representatives
of Government agencies that a contract or grant
will be forthcoming, and the only delay is a
ministerial one of document processing. An agency
representative making such a representation must
be one who can be relied on for such representation.

This delegation is effective immediately and supersedes
the September 6, 1966 delegation on the same subject and
President Hitch's related letter of December 3, 1969. This
authority may not be redelegated.

David S. Saxon
President

cc: Members, President's Administrative Council