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OFFICE OF THE VICE CHANCELLOR –
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND PLANNING

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October 21, 2010

All Interested Parties (see attached Distribution List)

I am writing to you today in my capacity as the official UC San Diego campus liaison to work with native communities considering or requesting repatriation of human remains from the University's collections. As you likely know, in 1976, human remains were excavated from the University House site at UCSD (that site is often referred to as CA-SDI-4669). The University House site is located in an area that is recognized as aboriginal land of the Diegueno (Kumeyaay) Tribe.

In October of 2008, following consultation, the University submitted to the National NAGPRA Program a Notice of Inventory Completion and an associated inventory for Native American remains (Inventory SDI-4669,W-12-76). Those documents reflect the University's determination that the human remains that were excavated from the University House site in 1976 are culturally unidentifiable at this time. Over the past two years, consultations relating to these remains have continued. In particular, our campus has been in frequent contact with the Kumeyaay Cultural Repatriation Committee (KCRC) about its stated desire to see these remains repatriated.

Over the past few months, especially in light of the new NAGPRA regulations relating to the disposition of culturally unidentifiable human remains and associated funerary objects (43 CFR 10.11), our campus has been in regular contact with representatives of the KCRC. For example, on May 28, 2010, at the KCRC's request, our campus' Chancellor, Vice Chancellor for Research, and I all met with KCRC representatives at the San Pasqual Cultural Center — at which time we discussed the human remains that are the subject of Inventory SDI-4669,W-12-76. The three of us all shared a common belief that that May 28th meeting was quite productive. The KCRC has expressed this same sentiment to us. Since then, our dialogue has continued.

On August 2, 2010, Steve Banegas, KCRC Spokesman, wrote to our campus on behalf of the twelve Kumeyaay Bands of San Diego County, requesting that possession of the human remains and funerary objects previously excavated at the CA-SDI-4669 site be transferred to the La Posta Band of Mission Indians (for your reference, a copy of that letter is enclosed herewith). I am writing to you today to follow up on that request.

Having received the August 2, 2010 request for disposition, UCSD prepared a new draft Notice of Inventory Completion, a copy of which is enclosed herewith. In accordance with UC policy and procedures, the campus would need to send this draft to the University's system wide advisory group and to the President or designee for review. Thereafter, and if approved, the Notice of Inventory Completion could then be transmitted to the Department of the Interior, National Park Service, for publication – a necessary prerequisite to disposition.

In the event you believe that further consultation is required prior to potential submission of this Notice of Inventory Completion, please notify me in writing no later than November 22, 2010. Similarly, if you do not agree with our potential submission of the draft Notice of Inventory Completion enclosed herewith, please notify me in writing by the same date.

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If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. Additionally, if you are interested in obtaining a copy of the original inventory (or other documentation) regarding these remains and associated funerary objects, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Gary C. Matthews Vice Chancellor

Attachments

cc.: Chancellor Marye Anne Fox

Distribution List

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Mr. Anthony Pico Viejas Band of Mission Indians P.O. Box 908 Alpine, CA 91903