OPEN LETTER TO THE UC COMMUNITY

I am writing on behalf of the International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility (INES), an association of over 90 organizations on five continents that works for the solution to environmental and social problems and the promotion of peace. As a former co-worker of the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory who once lived on the edge of the Berkeley campus, I was always impressed by the academic level of the University, and the gentle spirits and open minds of students and teachers.

The University of California, however, has contributed to the research, testing and development of nuclear weapons for over 50 years. It has become clear that nuclear weapons destroy stability, increase uncertainty and aggravate the global imbalance. Every justification for academic support of developing nuclear weapons has lost its validity.

It has recently been revealed in the US Nuclear Posture Review that the United States is preparing new types of nuclear weaponry and does not exclude the use of nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states in the future. It is impossible to understand why you are contributing to the development of these terrible weapons that politicians, without consulting you, may use for the destruction of our beautiful planet.

On behalf of the International Network of Engineers and Scientists for Global Responsibility, we urge the University of California to sever its relationship with the nuclear weapons laboratories and get out of the business of developing nuclear weapons. We urge scientists and engineers to act for the benefit of the world, using their abilities for solving international problems and for establishing a culture of peace.

Sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Armin Tenner
Chair

Amsterdam, 18 June 2002

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