November 30, 2010

To: Nathan Tublitz, President, UO Senate

From: Richard W. Lariviere, University President

Re: Resolution US10/11-04

"Resolved, That the UO Senate requests that President Lariviere comply with the terms set forth in the Intergovernmental Agreement for the Riverfront Research Park prior to initiating groundbreaking or construction activities in the Riverfront Research Park north of the railroad tracks, and to report to the Senate without delay how the University has maintained and will remain in compliance with the agreement."

—from UO Senate Resolution US10/11-04

As conveyed in the attached letter from Vice President Richard Linton, Section 3 of the 1986 Intergovernmental Agreement provides that the 1986 IGA is of indefinite duration unless one or more parties indicates its intention to withdraw. No formal notice of termination or withdrawal is required. Rather, one party must indicate, in some way, its intention to withdraw. The attached letter specifies how that intention was made known through communications between the University of Oregon and the City of Eugene.

As further noted by Vice President Linton, a second intergovernmental agreement was signed by the City of Eugene, its Urban Renewal Agency, and the UO in 2000. That IGA transferred all remaining funds from a Research Strategies Program Grant Award and all authority regarding the funds to the UO and absolved the City from all responsibilities with respect to funds.

Therefore, issues of remaining in compliance with the 1986 IGA are no longer relevant.

Over the last decade ORI studied many possible sites, including downtown Eugene and various alternatives. The selected location and building site plan were negotiated in good faith with all parties involved, and the plans for the project have been modified to reflect concerns raised. The process has been
consistent with the Conditional Use Permit for the Riverfront Research Park that remains in effect through October 2012.

Issues raised regarding this project reinforce the University’s stated intent to update the Riverfront Research Park Master Plan for the period subsequent to October 2012. I look forward to working with the University Senate and others to assure a robust campus and community public process comparable to the broad-ranging discussions when the original research park plan was created. I appreciate the Senate’s interest in this matter and the care with which your body discussed and considered the resolution.

Attachments:

1. 11/23/10 letter from Vice President Richard Linton to Sarah Medary at City of Eugene
2. 11/30/98 letter from President Dave Frohnmayer to Mayor Jim Torrey regarding reappointment of RRP Commission members whose terms were expiring
3. 12/9/98 letter from Mayor Torrey to President Frohnmayer acknowledging the 11/30/98 letter
4. 12/8/99 RRP Commission meeting minutes
5. 12/10/99 letter from RRP Commission chair Dan Giustina to President Frohnmayer, Mayor Torrey and City Council
6. 1/20/00 letter from President Frohnmayer to Mayor Torrey and council
7. 2/7/00 letter from Mayor Torrey to President Frohnmayer
8. 6/5/00 Intergovernmental Agreement that transfers funds and responsibility to the State
9. 12/11/00 Urban Renewal Agency summary