

Media Advisory- National Institutes of Health issues report regarding allegations

December 9, 1987

MEDIA ADVISORY

The National Institutes of Health has issued the attached report on their recent review of allegations regarding UCSD scientists, Dr's. John Hansbrough and Steven Boyce.

Extensive media coverage was given to the fact that the scientists' research was under review by the NIH, based on anonymous allegations listed on page one of the report) made to that agency.

The NIH conducted an extensive review of the allegations, which were both far-reaching and complex. The review touched on the investigators' research at UCSD, the appropriateness of their affiliation with a private company, the manner in which their research was patented, their integrity in reporting on their research, and their management of research funds/ equipment and personnel.

The NIH found no evidence to support the allegations/ except for a single transaction in which \$7,000 was unintentionally credited to the wrong research account. A UCSD review of this incident revealed that the entry was due to a clerical error. The credit has since been transferred to the correct account.

UCSD Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Harold Ticho, said in response to the report. "In my view the report actually has two strong messages. One, that an exhaustive review has shown that there is no basis to anonymous but very serious allegations of misconduct by these scientists.

Perhaps more importantly, the report shows that these scientists have been particularly conscientious in conducting and reporting on their research, and in following federal and state laws and University of California rules regarding patenting of their research results and transferring that technology to the private sector."

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES; Public Health Service National Institutes of Health
Memorandum (attached)

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