

**American Farmland Trust  
Bank of America  
California Association of Winegrape Growers  
California Cattlemen's Association  
California Coalition for Food and Farming  
California Farm Bureau Federation  
California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation  
Community Alliance of Family Farmers  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Environmental Defense  
Great Valley Center  
Marrone Organic Innovations  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Richard Rominger  
Roots of Change  
San Joaquin County Conservation District  
Sustainable Conservation  
Western Growers Association**

October 4, 2007

Robert C. Dynes, President  
The Regents of the University of California  
Office of the Secretary  
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor  
Oakland, CA 94607-5200

Dear President Dynes,

As members of the California Roundtable on Agriculture and the Environment (CRAE), we are writing to urge your support for a \$10 million baseline budget augmentation for ANR's research and extension programs. We support use of these funds for applied research and delivery of science-based information and enhanced management practices at the interface of agriculture, environment and social responsibility and to assure the over-all sustainability of California's food system.

As you know, funding for the University's Cooperative Extension and Agriculture Experiment Station budgets has sustained deep cuts in recent years, shrinking by more than \$31 million in state support since 2003. Yet, more than ever, our constituents need the University to help producers solve pressing environmental challenges, withstand sprawl and farmland conversion, reach new markets for renewable energy and ecosystem services, and help the state achieve its climate protection goals. Knowledge and outreach are critically needed to help producers compete economically in an increasingly global marketplace, while meeting the highest standards for food safety, environmental protection and social responsibility.

We believe that the issues identified in ANR's budget augmentation proposal, under the headings of environmental protection and food safety, embody many of the priorities that our constituents believe are of the greatest concern to agriculture and the people of California. If this funding request is granted, we trust that ANR will work with CRAE and other stakeholders to further refine these priorities. It is our expectation that this budget augmentation will also create opportunities to enhance collaboration between campus researchers and cooperative extension specialists, increase collaboration with external stakeholders, accelerate knowledge transfer from campuses to end users, foster collaboration with the California State University system, and leverage additional external funding.

We look forward to working with you and the incoming ANR Vice President in expanding ANR's capacity to promote a sustainable food system in California. Our organizations are prepared to support your efforts to seek these requested funds through the state budget process.

Respectfully,

Edward P. Thompson, Jr., California State Director  
American Farmland Trust

Corny Gallagher, Agribusiness Executive  
Bank of America

Karen Ross, President  
California Association of Winegrape Growers

Matt Byrne, Executive Vice President  
California Cattlemen's Association

Kris O'Connor, President  
California Coalition for Food and Farming

Noelle G. Cremers, Director  
Natural Resources and Commodities  
California Farm Bureau Federation

Martha Guzman Aceves, Legislative Assistant  
California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation

David Runsten, Executive Director  
Community Alliance of Family Farmers

Kim Delfino, California Program Director  
Defenders of Wildlife

Kathryn Phillips, Manager  
CA Clean Air for Life Campaign  
Environmental Defense

Holly King, Director  
Agricultural Programs  
Great Valley Center

Pam Marrone, CEO and founder  
Marrone Organic Innovations, Inc.

Jonathan Kaplan, Director  
Sustainable Agriculture Project  
Natural Resources Defense Council

Richard Rominger

Michael Dimock, President  
Roots of Change

Molly Watkins, Vice President  
San Joaquin County Conservation District

Ladi Asgill, Agricultural Economist  
Sustainable Agriculture  
Sustainable Conservation

Hank Giclas, Vice President  
Science & Technology, Strategic Planning  
Western Growers Association

cc: Provost Hume  
Executive Vice President Lapp