

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great sadness that we are announcing the closure of the Cell Culture Facility (CCF) Resale and Media Production units. CCF has been a venerable institution at UCSF for 44 years, serving the research community with outstanding customer service – any of you who have worked with the CCF staff know there is practically nothing they won't do for their researchers.

CCF sales have been declining for the past five years. Over the last two years, the Resource Research Program (RRP) has devoted significant efforts to updating and improving the practices of both units in order to retain these services on campus. Unfortunately, these efforts were not successful. While there have always been multiple avenues available to researchers for purchasing, the drop in sales over the past five years is coincident with the introduction of Bear Buy, the University's procurement system that was introduced in 2012, along with competitive pricing and improved services in general. We recognize that our scientists value the convenience of being able to pick up reagents from the CCF Resale stores at Parnassus and Mission Bay, but it is no longer feasible to continue to offer this service without increasing the prices considerably beyond what researchers are willing to pay. In summary, despite efforts over the past few years to increase the amount of sales flowing through CCF, the diminished sales have resulted in the inability for the CCF to remain a sustainable resource.

Most importantly, the focus is on the needs of the CCF staff members who are affected by this closure. We are working to find them new opportunities at UCSF, and I would greatly appreciate any help you can offer in identifying suitable positions for them.

Please note that the Tissue Culture unit that cryopreserves and banks cell lines will remain open.

I know that many of you will feel the loss and have questions and concerns. In the coming weeks we will provide you with the information you need to transition in a way that minimizes the impact of this change in operations on your research, and you should feel free to contact [Executive Director Suzanne Murphy](#) in my office with any questions you have in the interim.

When you have a chance, please go by and thank the CCF team for their commitment and service to UCSF.

Sincerely,

Dan Lowenstein, MD  
Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost  
Dr. Robert B. and Mrs. Ellinor Aird Professor of Neurology