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Dear Colleagues,

We recently announced the difficult decision to close the Vet Med Central Services facilities in Haring Hall and VM3B as of June 1, 2018. This decision was reached after significant analysis and review of the current business model by the campus Office of Budget & Institutional Analysis (BIA), working with an independent consultant and campus stores in consultation with the School of Veterinary Medicine, in an unsuccessful effort to develop a financially viable solution to maintain this useful service in its current form.

The VMCS currently operates at a significant loss each month and has a substantial accumulated deficit. We are grateful that the School of Veterinary Medicine has operated Central Services to the benefit of the entire campus for more than 50 years, but in a changing purchasing environment, it has become increasingly difficult to maintain a cost effective operation, and it is unreasonable to expect that the School should continue to subsidize this service for the rest of the campus.

Having heard from stakeholders across campus about the importance of this service to their research programs, and the negative impacts that a closure would have, I have decided to appoint a group to begin work immediately with the charge of identifying a solution that will support the most important research needs in a financially sustainable manner. During this review period the campus has agreed to delay closure of Vet Med Central Services for 3 months and to subsidize the monthly losses during this period. We appreciate the outpouring of support for this long-time service and encourage your continued patronage.

Sincerely,

Ralph J. Hexter

Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor