

**Resolution of THE SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE**  
**June 8, 2017**  
**Seema Gandhi, MD, Chair**

**Resolution on Not Serving Red Meat at Institutionally Sponsored Functions**

Whereas:

- UCSF aspires to advance health worldwide and to be on the cutting-edge of health care discoveries, health care delivery, and health care reforms.
- Global climate change is an enormous health threat, both in the United States and worldwide.<sup>1,2</sup>
- Observational epidemiologic studies have found that greater red meat consumption is associated with increases in cardiovascular, cancer, and all-cause mortality.<sup>3-6</sup>
- Meat production (particularly that from ruminant animals) is a major contributor to climate change, due to land use changes and the production of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, most notably methane and nitrous oxide.<sup>7-9</sup>
- Meat production is associated with a variety of other negative environmental consequences including excessive water use, land and water pollution from manure runoff, and excessive antibiotic use.<sup>7,9,10</sup>
- Consequences of global climate change fall disproportionately on poor people and poor countries, those least responsible for the excess greenhouse gases causing it.<sup>11</sup>
- As the impact of red meat consumption on health and the environment has become clear, continuing to serve red meat at university-sponsored functions makes a statement that is inconsistent with UCSF's mission and values.

Therefore, be it hereby resolved that the University of California, San Francisco Academic Senate Committee on Sustainability:

- Recommends that all departments at UCSF commit to not serving red meat at department-sponsored functions such as department seminars, receptions and dinners.
- Recommends that UCSF as an entire institution commit to not serving red meat at university-sponsored functions.

## REFERENCES

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