The Committee on Academic Freedom (ACFR) met two times during the 2007/2008 academic year and considered the following issues:

**Vendor Relations**

The committee endorsed the revised version of the Draft Proposal on the Relationships between (Pharmaceutical) Vendors and Clinicians. While the committee had some reservations, they ultimately decided that the guidelines barring free gifts of any kind to those who have a fiduciary responsibility to their clients were acceptable.

**Disinvitation of Regents’ Speaker**

The committee discussed the UC Regents’ decision to rescind an invitation to former Harvard president Lawrence Summer to speak at a dinner after being pressured by faculty to do so. The question was raised whether this was an issue about freedom of speech, academic freedom, or simply governance. Failing to reach a consensus among committee members, no comment was made.

**Course Design and Materials Guidelines Survey**

Data was collected from a variety of departments about the ways in which professors design their courses and choose their course materials such as textbooks. In question was the degree of autonomy that faculty have over their courses and the ways in which disputes about design and material selection might be resolved.

**John Yoo Issue**

The committee was asked by Chair Drummond to comment on the academic freedom issues associated with recent complaints that have been made against a faculty member in the law school vis a vis his professional activities outside his role as faculty at Berkeley. The committee came to the conclusion that at this time no disciplinary steps could be taken against the faculty member without infringement on his academic freedom taking place. If an act such as plagiarism, bad faith, or intentional misinterpretation of information was suspected and proved there would be reasonable grounds for a charge of scholarly incompetence.