

APPENDIX S

REMARKS BY DR. DUDLEY E. FLOOD REPORT ON THE 2008 O. MAX GARDNER AWARD COMMITTEE

MARCH 7, 2008

Leroy Lail, Cheryl Locklear, Charles Mercer, Priscilla Taylor, and I served on the 2008 O. Max Gardner Award Committee. We committed ourselves to follow the provisions of Governor Gardner's will and to choose that member of the faculty who "has made the greatest contribution to the welfare of the human race."

After careful consideration of many qualified nominees, the committee recommended Dr. Myron Scott Cohen, J. Herbert Bate Distinguished Professor of Medicine, Microbiology, Immunology, and Epidemiology and Director of the Institute of Global Health and Infectious Disease at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to be the recipient of the 2008 Oliver Max Gardner Award.

Dr. Cohen completed his training in Infectious Disease at Yale University in 1980, the very year that AIDS was first identified. He has since spent virtually his entire career studying the transmission and prevention of the virus responsible for this illness, the Human Immunodeficiency Virus or HIV. He and his colleagues have developed sensitive assays to measure the concentration of HIV in critical body fluids, using these assays to estimate the risk of HIV transmission. Dr. Cohen and his colleagues were among the first to demonstrate that classical sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as gonorrhea amplify the transmission of HIV and this work has been critical to the development of HIV prevention strategies. He has married basic research, public health, and medicine, and his ideas have had a profound influence on worldwide thinking about HIV prevention. His work has benefited the people of North Carolina, the United States, and millions of individuals throughout the world, most extensively in Malawi, Africa and China but also in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Africa, and Russia.

On behalf of the Committee, Dr. Flood moved approval of the nomination. The motion carried.