

**OPENING STATEMENT OF DR. SAM HAWGOOD
CHANCELLOR, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SAN FRANCISCO
JULY 14, 2026 HEARING BEFORE
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

Good morning, Chairman Walberg, Ranking Member Scott, and Members of the Committee.

The UCSF School of Medicine consistently ranks among the top U.S. medical schools in education, research, and patient care.

As a public university, we are committed to serving the health care needs of people across California and the nation. That mission is deeply personal to me. I came to UCSF more than 40 years ago as a research fellow, and for nearly 30 years, I practiced medicine and ran a federally-funded research lab.

Patient-centered care is at the very core of the School of Medicine's curriculum. We teach students the fundamentals of medicine through a rigorous, science-based curriculum grounded in biology.

In compliance with national accreditation standards, we also teach future doctors that delivering compassionate, high-quality care requires an understanding of how a patient's background and life circumstances may affect their health outcomes. The Justice and Advocacy in Medicine course, or JAM, was designed to address these social drivers of health. JAM accounted for roughly two percent of total classroom time. Although much of JAM met school expectations, portions did not meet our standards for relevance and scholarship. In the fall of 2025, our standard curriculum review process indicated the need to discontinue the course.

We have implemented three remedial actions. First, in early 2026, the decision was made to replace JAM with an entirely new course. Second, we have implemented required training to reinforce the importance of Regents Policy 2301, which limits the use of the classroom to relevant course content. Third, all mandatory courses will be taught by university faculty who will be held accountable for meeting our standards.

We strive for an educational environment that is respectful and supportive of our entire community. Antisemitism and any other form of discrimination have no place at UCSF. Since 2024, an outside organization has provided professional training about antisemitism to faculty, staff, and students. As Chancellor, I have spoken out against antisemitism and held accountable those who violated our policies.

I appreciate the opportunity to speak about UCSF's commitment to educating outstanding doctors.