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February 23, 2006

Dr. Rob Borofsky  
Director, Center for a Public Anthropology  
814 Kaipii Street  
Kailua, HI 96734

Dear Dr. Borofsky:

Thank you for your note regarding the Yanomami samples. I have asked our Provost and Vice President for Research to review the situation, and one of them will be back in touch with you to report on the outcome.

Sincerely,

  
Graham B. Spanier

cc: Rodney Erickson  
Eva Pell



**Rodney A. Erickson**  
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The Pennsylvania State University  
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February 27, 2006

Dr. Rob Borofsky  
Center for a Public Anthropology  
814 Kaipii Street  
Kailua, HI 96734

Dear Dr. Borofsky:

Thank you for your letter of February 17, 2006, concerning the matter of blood samples from Yanomami tribesmen that are stored here at Penn State University. I have looked into the situation in recent days, and can now respond to your inquiry.

Penn State researchers are not involved in any research utilizing these blood samples, nor is any such future research contemplated. The issue therefore revolves solely around the return of these blood samples to Yanomami tribal representatives. Based on your letter, you are aware that Dean Susan Welch has recently written to Señor Mauricio Fabretti, Deputy Attorney of Brazil, to indicate that we at Penn State stand ready to transfer these blood samples to the proper authorities who will ensure that they are returned to the appropriate tribal organization(s). Similar to your understanding of the position of Dr. Joseph Fraumeni of the National Cancer Institute (NCI), we, too, are most willing to transfer the samples of Yanomami blood to appropriate representatives from Brazil and Venezuela and will work with Señor Fabretti and/or the Yanomami in each country to provide for a safe and successful transfer of these samples. The transfers of these samples from Penn State and NCI could ideally take place at the same time and under the same circumstances.

We are awaiting Señor Fabretti's response, and I have copied him on this correspondence. I am hopeful that the transfer of these blood samples can be accomplished in a timely manner.

Sincerely,

Rodney A. Erickson

cc: M. Fabretti  
J. F. Fraumeni, Jr.  
E. J. Pell  
G. B. Spanier  
K. Weiss  
S. Welch