November 19, 2015

Professor Leo Estrada
Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

Re: Faculty Welfare Committee’s Response to College FEC Response to Academic Senate Concerns Regarding Proposal to Establish Working Title of “Teaching Professor”

Dear Professor Estrada,

The Faculty Welfare Committee discussed the Response to Senate Concerns of the College FEC Proposal to establish a working title of “Teaching Professor” for members of the Pre-Security of Employment (PSOE) and Security of Employment (SOE) lecturer series at our November 17th meeting. Although many potential strengths of the proposed program were identified, the committee would like to highlight a few major concerns.

The Committee supports the “pilot program” outlined in the original College FEC proposal as long as the program’s success is reevaluated within a reasonable amount of time, preferably three years after the initial start of the program. As the program grows, we hope there will be particular attention paid to its impact on the allocation of regular faculty FTE, the integration of this new position in participating departments, the impact on other non-ladder faculty, and on the quality of undergraduate instruction in participating departments.

The original proposal envisioned that no more than 16 positions would be advertised in the first three years of the program. However, in the College’s Response, the total number of teaching faculty has increased to as many as 45 positions. We suggest that the number of new hires remain modest during the program’s initial phase, with the original 16 proposed positions. We ask that any planned expansion of the program be submitted to the Senate for review and only be undertaken after the initial pilot program has been thoroughly evaluated.

On behalf of the Committee on Faculty Welfare, I thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Response to Senate Concerns. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can be of further assistance. I can be reached at 310-206-7290, or by email to msweeney@soc.ucla.edu. Our Committee Analyst, Annie Speights, is also available to assist. She can be reached at 310-825-3853 or by email to aspeights@senate.ucla.edu.

Sincerely,
Megan Sweeney  
Chair, Committee on Faculty Welfare

cc: Members of the Committee on Faculty Welfare  
   Linda Mohr, CAO, Academic Senate  
   Serge Chenkerian, MSO/Executive Assistant, Academic Senate  
   Annie Speights, Committee Analyst, Committee on Faculty Welfare