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November 21, 2008

Mary Croughan
Chair of the Academic Council
University of California

In RE: Proposed Amendments to Senate Bylaws 125.A.4, 128, and 130

Dear Mary,

Thank you for the opportunity to review and opine upon the proposed changes to Senate Bylaws 125.A.4, 128, and 130. Upon receipt of the review, I invited all Academic Senate committees to opine; a response was received from the Undergraduate Council (UgC; please see attached); the Executive Board also reviewed the proposal.

The UCLA Division of the Academic Senate does not support the amendments. The UgC and the Board concur that the addition of Systemwide Committee Chairs to the Council would further dilute the perspective of the campuses on the Council. There are presently twenty members of the Council, half are Division chairs. The other half is constituted of faculty who may or may not have been a Divisional Chair. It is critical, in the view of UCLA, to ensure adequate and proportionate representation of the Divisions on the Council.

Moreover, the bylaws already allow for the Chair of Academic Freedom to be reappointed for a second year term. We therefore maintain that amending the bylaws to require a two-year term for the Chair of the Systemwide Committee on Academic Freedom is undesirable.

Thank you again for the opportunity to review and opine upon this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Goldstein".

Michael Goldstein
UCLA Academic Senate Chair

Cc: Martha Kendall Winnacker, Executive Director, Academic Senate
Jaime Balboa, Chief Administrative Officer, UCLA Academic Senate

November 3, 2008

To: Michael Goldstein, Academic Senate Chair
UCLA, Academic Senate



From: Dorothy Wiley, Chair
Undergraduate Council

Re: Proposed Amendments to UC Senate Bylaws 125.A.4, 128, and 130

At its October 17, 2008 meeting, the Undergraduate Council (UgC) deliberated on the proposed UC Senate Bylaws amendments (125.A.4; 128; 130) that would extend the tenure of the Chairman for the University Committee on Academic Freedom (UCAF) from one year to two, and to include the Chair as a permanent voting member for the Academic Council.

The UgC generally expressed several concerns. Firstly, there is no compelling reason to extend the tenure of this Chairmanship beyond that of other committees. Secondly, adding another committee chair as a voting member to the governing council dilutes the authority and voice provided by individual campuses. The UgC membership opposed unanimously these recommendations.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me (x 5-0803; dwiley@ucla.edu) or Judith Lacertosa, UgC Principal Policy Analyst (x51194; jlacertosa@senate.ucla.edu).

cc: Judith Smith, Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education
Judith Lacertosa, Principal Policy Analyst