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January 3, 2008

Michael Brown
Chair of the Academic Council

In Re: *New UCLA Response to Proposal on Non-Affiliates*

Dear Michael,

This letter supersedes the UCLA response to the Proposal on Non-Affiliates dated December 12, 2007. Since then, the Executive Board, which speaks for the Division on such matters, has also had an opportunity to review and opine on the matter and seeks to be on record and unanimously endorsing the views of the Graduate Council and Academic Freedom. As you may recall, I had specifically requested that the Graduate Council (GC), Undergraduate Council (UgC), and Academic Freedom Committee (AFC) opine. While the UgC declined to opine, finding no direct relevance to its charge, GC and Academic Freedom both outlined concerns with the proposal as written. I have attached their responses for your consideration. Given this, the UCLA Division will support the proposal contingent upon revisions as outlined below.

- The Executive Board and GC opined that the definition of “non-affiliate” is too broad (page 1). “As written, one must be a student, officer, or employee of the University of California to be counted as an affiliate. At any given time, the Graduate Council estimates that there are numerous graduate students on campus who, perhaps due to questions of inadequate funding or other extenuating circumstances, let their enrollment lapse for a quarter. Such students would be counted as non-affiliates and would, therefore, be required to leave the campus between the hours of midnight and 6 AM, unless otherwise posted by the campus (page 3). Given the varied study and research schedules of graduate students, Council members find this an unacceptable consequence of the proposed policy. Moreover, the Council is concerned that it is not in the best interests of the University to designate official volunteers (i.e., the Board of Directors for the UCLA Foundation or the Alumni Association, major donors, invited guests, vendors, etc.) as ‘non-affiliates.’

The GC recommends amending the definition of non-affiliates to be inclusive of the full range of the University community, especially with regard to graduate students.”

- The Executive Board and AFC recommends language to introduce the section “Signs, Posters, Placards, Banners, Handbills, Displays/Structures” states as follows (Page 5): “Non-affiliates' ability to speak on campus -- for instance, by leafleting, by asking questions at speeches and debates, and by participating in peaceful and orderly rallies and demonstrations -- adds to the vibrant exchange of ideas at the university, and enhances the intellectual life of students, staff, and faculty. At the same time, reasonable content-neutral restrictions on non-affiliates' speech can help make sure that events remain peaceful, and can help the university preserve university property for the functions for which it is primarily dedicated.”

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions. And again, thank you for the opportunity to opine.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Elizabeth L. Bjork". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Elizabeth Ligon Bjork
UCLA Academic Senate Chair

Cc: María Bertero-Barceló, Systemwide Senate Executive Director
Jaime Balboa, UCLA Senate CAO