

3125 Murphy Hall
410 Charles E. Young Drive East
Los Angeles, California 90095

April 7, 2021

To: Shane White, Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

From: Megan McEvoy, Chair, Undergraduate Council

**Re: Systemwide Senate Review: Universitywide Police Policies and Administrative Procedures
(The “Gold Book”)**

At its meetings on March 5, 2021, and April 2, 2021, the Undergraduate Council discussed the proposed revisions to the Universitywide Police Policies and Administrative Procedures (the “Gold Book”). Though several members noted that they lack expertise on these policies, members offered the following comments about campus safety for consideration.

Members expressed support for studying appropriate mechanisms to make our campus safer, and for engaging in a broader, more holistic discussion of how to equally and justly promote a safe campus for all students, faculty, and staff. One student representative noted that some groups feel more protected by police than others.

Many members expressed concern about the proposed revision to allow Qualified Retired Peace Officers to carry concealed weapons on campus, and felt that such an allowance was unnecessary.

Some members were supportive of investing more in other forms of safety for our campus community, and divesting from policing on campus. These members expressed concern about the University’s increased investment in policing structures—body cameras, surveillance—that are suggested by the proposed revisions, and did not feel convinced that such mechanisms were the best way forward to promoting campus safety. One student representative noted that there is ongoing work to decriminalize crisis response on campus, such as involving mental health professionals, and not police, when responding to mental health crises. Several members expressed support for this work.

One member suggested that UCPD officers should complete cultural diversity and sensitivity training, a recommendation made in response to the Moreno Report of 2013.

Thank you for the opportunity to opine. If you have any questions, please contact us via the Undergraduate Council’s analyst, Aileen Liu, at aliu@senate.ucla.edu.

cc: April de Stefano, Executive Director, Academic Senate
Jody Kreiman, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, Academic Senate
Aileen Liu, Committee Analyst, Undergraduate Council
Michael Meranze, Immediate Past Chair, Academic Senate