April 12, 2021

To: Shane White, Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

From: Andrea Kasko, Chair, Graduate Council

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

At its meeting on April 9, 2021, the Graduate Council discussed the proposed revisions to the Universitywide Police Policies and Administrative Procedures (the “Gold Book”).

Members generally endorsed the Undergraduate Council’s comments in their memo dated April 7, 2021, particularly the call to study campus safety more holistically. Members noted that a good first step is the Chancellor and the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost’s announcement, on April 9, 2021, that they are “commissioning an independent fact-finding review and assessment of our campus safety policies and procedures,” co-chaired by UCLA Professor Tyrone Howard and Rasha Gerges Shields, in order to “help identify policies and practices that support public safety and a sense of belonging for the entire Bruin community” (Charting a New Course for Public Safety at UCLA).

One member expressed support for rethinking surveillance, which law enforcement seeks to expand. One student representative shared that a good number of graduate students, particularly men of color, do not feel safe with police on campus.

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

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