December 9, 2021

Roger Wakimoto  
Vice Chancellor for Research and Creative Activities

Re: Envisioning Research in the Post-Pandemic University Report

Dear Vice Chancellor Wakimoto,

The Executive Board reviewed the Envisioning Research in the Post-Pandemic University Report and divisional council and committee feedback at its meeting on December 2, 2021. Members unanimously endorsed the report.

Members acknowledged that as we remain in an on-going pandemic, it is important for the campus to focus on vulnerable members of the research community (e.g. graduate students, junior faculty, and postdoctoral scholars) as well as mitigation measures for research continuity. Members encouraged your office to develop pragmatic, operational, practical ways to turn this report from an aspirational document to a concrete implementation plan and subsequently to communicate effectively with stakeholders in the research community. A main goal of the report was to think about the R1 university in the wake of this global pandemic. Members recommended that various bodies on campus engage with these ideas, and urge the campus—and your office—to stage conversations about what has changed for research, identify emergent issues, and so on. The pandemic has forced us to accelerate towards change with regard to research and technology; it is important to think proactively to shape the future of research at our campus.

The Academic Senate plans to look more closely at report recommendations to the Senate itself. We look forward to learning more about your plans as well as any opportunities for partnership.

Sincerely,

Jody Kreiman
Chair
UCLA Academic Senate

Cc: Jessica Cattelino, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, UCLA Academic Senate  
Shane White, Immediate Past Chair, UCLA Academic Senate  
April de Stefano, Executive Director, UCLA Academic Senate