February 6, 2022

To:  Jody Kreiman, Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

From:  Leah Lievrouw, Chair, Graduate Council

Re:  (Systemwide Senate Review) Recommendations for Department Political Statements

At its meeting on January 28, 2022, the Graduate Council reviewed and discussed the Recommendations for Department Political Statements and offers the following observations for the Executive Board’s consideration:

Members were generally supportive of Recommendation #1, which states that when a departmental statement is issued or endorsed that indicates support or endorsement of, or opposition to, a given commercial, religious, or political activity or issue, the statement should be accompanied by an explicit disclaimer stating that the department’s statement should not be taken as the position of or endorsement by the University of California, or by the campus as a whole.

In addition, members echoed the UCLA Faculty Welfare Committee’s observations and reservations about Recommendation #2.

We appreciate the opportunity to express our views on this matter. If you have any questions, please contact us via Graduate Council’s Analyst, Estrella Arciba, at earciba@senate.ucla.edu.