

January 18, 2023

Susan Cochran  
Chair, UC Systemwide Academic Senate

**Re: (Systemwide Senate Review) Presidential Policy on Vaccination Programs**

Dear Chair Cochran,

At the January 12, 2023, meeting of the Executive Board, members reviewed the Presidential Policy on Vaccination Programs, and divisional committee and council responses. Members appreciated the opportunity to review the policy and offered the following comments.

The Executive Board recognizes this is a complicated issue. For such a proposed change, members requested a stronger empirical justification and sound data to show that removing the COVID-19 booster mandate will not negatively affect the safety of our university population. They requested citations to support this important claim: "At this point, however, a large proportion of the population has experienced COVID-19 since January 2022, and the University has concluded that the combination of Primary Series, earlier boosters, and naturally occurring immunity provides a large majority of the University community with adequate protection to reduce the public health risk faced during earlier stages of the pandemic." Thus, members could not support the proposal at this time. Specifically, they asked for further consideration and evidence that this proposed opt-out change in policy would not place greater risks on campus members who may be more vulnerable due to age, disability status, or medical issues.

Sincerely,



Jessica Cattelino  
Chair  
UCLA Academic Senate

Encl.

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