February 10, 2023

Darnell Hunt
Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost

Re: Academic Senate and Administration Joint Task Force on Investigatory and Judiciary Processes Final Report

Dear Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Hunt,

At the January 26, 2023, meeting of the Executive Board, members discussed the Academic Senate and Administration Joint Task Force on Investigatory and Judiciary Processes Final Report (Report) and feedback from UCLA Academic Senate (Senate) committees and councils.

Members voted unanimously to elevate the first and seventh recommendations in the Report, request clarification as to how the report can be integrated with the new university policy on abusive conduct, and recommend that Administration think about intersectionality and how that can lead to issues falling through the cracks.

One motivation for the joint task force was the lack of clarity on campus about the various investigatory and judiciary processes. Senate committee feedback focused on promoting additional access and clarity. Given the important shared value of transparency of processes and outcomes, members emphasized the following Report recommendations that would enhance campus credibility and trust:

1. The Administration and the Academic Senate should appoint a joint task force to build on the work of this Task Force. The need for clearer communications and guidance for those navigating investigatory and judiciary processes is significant, and the report also recommends gathering information concerning the perspective on the campus investigatory and judiciary system held by other stakeholders, such as complainants (and would-be complainants).

7. All units and departments should be required to maintain documentation of their processes for handling inquiries and to make that documentation reasonably accessible to the community they serve.

In addition, members noted the newly issued (and unfunded) university abusive conduct policy. They suggested weaving the campus implementation of the abusive conduct policy into the next steps that result from the Report.

We urge you to review the enclosed committee letters.

Members would appreciate a reply that summarizes the Administration’s plans in response to the Report’s findings and recommendations.

Sincerely,
Jessica Cattelino
Chair
UCLA Academic Senate

Encl.

Cc:   Erika Chau, Assistant Vice Chancellor, Academic Personnel
      April de Stefano, Executive Director, UCLA Academic Senate
      Andrea Kasko, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, UCLA Academic Senate
      Michael Levine, Vice Chancellor for Academic Personnel
      Emily Rose, Assistant Provost, Chief of Staff to the EVCP
      Anna Spain Bradley, Vice Chancellor for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion
      Shane White, Immediate Past Chair, UCLA Academic Senate