

March 28, 2023

To: Academic Senate Committee and Council Chairs

From: Jessica Cattelino, Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

Re: Committee/Council Status Updates on Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at the UCLA Academic Senate

At the March 16, 2023, meeting of the Executive Board, members reviewed the recent status updates from Academic Senate committees and councils on efforts to promote diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) within the Academic Senate.

Members expressed appreciation for the responses and on-going efforts. They noted the significant variation in how committees/councils are attending to DEI, both in the subject matter of their agenda items and in the way that Senate bodies operate.

Members approved a motion to suggest that every committee/council incorporate DEI considerations when introducing each item on a meeting agenda. (The Executive Board, for example, includes in the introduction of each agenda item, no matter the topic, a brief [1-2 sentence] consideration of whether and how that agenda item may be related to diversity, equity, and inclusion.) Additionally, the Executive Board recommends assigning a rotating lead among your committee/council membership to present those DEI considerations. Please consider implementing this practice at future meetings. I welcome your feedback on this small meeting facilitation tool.

As the Academic Senate moves into the next phase of aligning our work more closely with our DEI values and commitments, we continue to consider how best to support our committees/councils and members. Please reach out to me and Executive Director April de Stefano if you seek support or to discuss ideas.

At the Executive Board meeting members discussed how it is the responsibility of each committee/council and of every faculty member to serve the Academic Senate in a way that contributes to diversity, equity, and inclusion. This is our collective journey, and thank you for your part in moving us forward.

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
Academic Senate Staff