This memo is a request to end the partial suspension of Divisional Senate Regulation 505 (SR 505) effective Fall 2023. The goal is to restore SR 505 in its entirety now that the COVID-19 emergency declaration has ended, consistent with the spring 2023 Executive Board action to end the suspension of A-332 (which applies to undergraduate courses).

BACKGROUND

The Legislative Assembly (LgA) approved the suspension (PDF) of parts of UCLA Senate Regulation 505 on March 11, 2020, as follows (the three sentences in bold were suspended):

505. (A) The instructor in charge of a graduate course shall be responsible for assigning the final grade in the course. The final grade shall reflect the student’s achievement in the course and shall be based upon adequate evaluation of that achievement. The instructor’s methods of evaluation must be announced at the beginning of the course. The methods may include in final written examination, a term paper, a final oral examination, a take-home examination, or other evaluation device. Evaluation methods must be of reasonable duration and difficulty, and must be in accord with applicable Academic Senate and departmental policies. Final written examinations shall not exceed three hours’ duration and shall be given only at the times and places established by the departmental Chair and the Registrar.

At this same meeting on March 11, 2020, the LgA also empowered the Executive Board to act on behalf of the Division as follows:

If the Executive Board determines that additional actions are necessary to ensure instructional continuity, it is empowered to act on behalf of the Division. This includes the authority to suspend or modify on a temporary basis the Regulations of the Division and its agencies concerning courses and curriculum and to suspend or modify degree requirements for those students who would have graduated upon the successful completion of their course work for that term. If due to illness, the Executive Board cannot achieve a quorum, the Chair of the Senate under advice of the Senate Leadership is empowered to work with the administration to suspend regulations where necessary. However, neither the Executive Board nor the Chair of the Division has authority to enact, repeal, or amend legislation of the Division or to make permanent changes in the policies of the Senate or any of its agencies.

PROPOSAL

Now that the COVID-19 emergency declaration has ended on the campus and more broadly at the city, county, state, and national level, I request the Executive Board to approve the following motion:
MOTION: The Executive Board, acting on behalf of the Legislative Assembly (LgA) per its resolution approved on March 11, 2020, hereby revokes the partial suspension of Divisional Senate Regulation 505 (SR 505). All sentences and provisions of SR 505 will be in full effect starting in the Fall 2023 academic term.

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