

October 20, 2023

Roger Wakimoto
Vice Chancellor for Research and Creative Activities

Re: **Proposed UCLA Policy on Human Gene and Cell Therapy Program**

Dear Vice Chancellor Wakimoto,

At the October 12th, 2023 meeting of the Executive Board, members reviewed the proposed UCLA Policy on Human Gene and Cell Therapy Program.

Members voted to decline to endorse the proposal, and reiterate long-standing and historical objections to the Scientific Review Committee (SRC). They noted that faculty were steered to send their research proposals through SRC with no apparent benefit and yet a requirement to pay for these services. Members expressed concern that the proposed policy would further empower the health system rather than faculty and academic departments to have control over this intellectual activity and the associated funding.


Members noted that the divisional Academic Senate had raised repeated concerns about the Scientific Review Committee (SRC) in the past:

<https://dms.senate.ucla.edu/issues/issue/?2015.Scientific.Review.and.IRB>.

The Executive Board requests a response to this proposal that addresses its intended benefits: What problem is the proposed policy trying to solve? How does the proposed policy further the academic mission of research, teaching and service of the University?

We appreciate the opportunity to advise on this matter and look forward to reviewing a revised proposal.

Sincerely,



Andrea Kasko
Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

Encl.

Cc: Kathleen Bawn, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, UCLA Academic Senate
Jessica Cattelino, Immediate Past Chair, UCLA Academic Senate
April de Stefano, Executive Director, UCLA Academic Senate

Anna Joyce, Director, Administrative Policies and Strategic Initiatives