Dear Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Hunt,

At the November 9, 2023, meeting of the Executive Board, Members reviewed the final report of the Academic Mission of UCLA Campus Expansion Joint Task Force and the feedback of divisional Academic Senate committees and councils. Members voted unanimously in favor of a motion to share the following feedback: they expressed great appreciation to the task force for their work and found that the proposed campus theme of sustainability and the environment is powerful. Members realized the current constraints in selling the property, however they indicated that a sale of the property is the preferred and mostly likely outcome. Further, they advised the Administration to follow the Academic Senate’s principles for campus expansion, which includes not draining resources from the Westwood campus, take appropriate measures to keep the sale an open option, and to regularly update the Senate.

To fulfill its role in meaningful consultation of the Academic Senate in shared governance, it is particularly important for Administration to consult with the Council on Planning and Budget (CPB) about operating expenses, opportunity costs, implementation, and associated considerations of ways to minimize costs. Members suggested that the implementation task force provide regular progress updates and requests for consultation to the Senate including CPB, the Executive Board, Graduate Council, Undergraduate Council, and Council on Research as appropriate.

Members noted that without a huge investment, the South Bay campus is not a promising academic site. Given its inherent constraints and limited university resources, it does not seem worth the investment.

The Academic Senate appreciates the opportunity to advise on this important report.

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