

December 8, 2023

James Steintrager  
Chair, UC Academic Senate

**Re: (Systemwide Senate Review) Presidential Policy on Vaccination Programs**

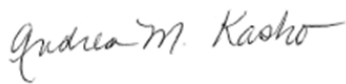
Dear Chair Steintrager,

The divisional Executive Board (EB) appreciated the opportunity to review the proposed Presidential Policy on Vaccination Programs. EB reviewed the proposal and divisional committee and council responses at its meeting on December 7, 2023. Members voted unanimously in favor of a motion to neither endorse nor oppose the proposed policy, to recognize that while the policy may be difficult to enforce several members are concerned about the ease of the opt-out option, and to affirm vaccination to protect the community.

Some members indicated they were favorably inclined towards the policy due to the costs of enforcing stricter university-wide policies. Other members expressed deep disappointment at how watered down the policy has become; they noted that people who opt out put the rest of population at great risk for illness and death, particularly vulnerable groups such as children and the elderly.

Members recommended that the policy should make it more challenging to opt out of vaccination. They suggested that more education, social pressure, and requiring provision of a reason were some ways to strongly encourage vaccination. The student representatives shared that students receive repeated reminders and their compliance is tied to course enrollment. Members expressed clear support for the benefits of vaccination.

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