

Executive Board

Principles to Guide Fiscal Decision-Making during the
Current Period of Financial Uncertainty

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February 9, 2026

Julio Frenk
Chancellor, UCLA

Darnell Hunt
Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost (EVCP), UCLA

Re: Principles to Guide Fiscal Decision-Making During the Current Period of Financial Uncertainty

Dear Chancellor Frenk and EVCP Hunt,

At the January 29, 2026, meeting of the Executive Board (EB), members voted in favor of a motion to endorse and forward the attached Principles for Fiscal Decision-Making at UCLA to the Legislative Assembly for endorsement, which were previously endorsed by the Council on Planning and Budget (CPB) at its January 26, 2026, meeting.

EB and CPB created the principles in response to the Resolution on Financial Transparency and the Restoration of Shared Governance in Budget Planning approved at the [November 13, 2025, meeting](#) of the Legislative Assembly.

We request full consideration of these principles as you make fiscal decisions for the campus budget.

Sincerely,
Megan McEvoy
Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

Encl.

Cc: Kathy Bawn, Immediate Past Chair, UCLA Academic Senate
Richard Desjardins, CPB Chair, UCLA Academic Senate
April de Stefano, Executive Director, UCLA Academic Senate
Elizabeth Feller, Associate Director, UCLA Academic Senate
Tim Groeling, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, UCLA Academic Senate
Emily Rose, Assistant Provost and Chief of Staff to the EVCP, UCLA
Julie Sina, Chief of Staff to the Chancellor, UCLA

January 29, 2026

Principles to Guide Fiscal Decision-Making during the Current Period of Financial Uncertainty

The Executive Board on January 29, 2026, and the Council on Planning and Budget on January 26, 2026, of the Los Angeles Division of the UC Academic Senate endorsed the following principles to guide fiscal decision-making during the current period of financial uncertainty in response to a [Resolution](#) on Financial Transparency and the Restoration of Shared Governance in Budget Planning approved at the November 13, 2025, meeting of the Legislative Assembly. Per the resolution, we submit these principles to advise Chancellor Julio Frenk and Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Darnell Hunt as they make budget decisions for the UCLA campus.

Principles for Fiscal Decision-Making at UCLA

1. Improve and grow the academic mission of research, creative activity, and teaching above all else. Only reduce financial resources for research and teaching after all other functions have been streamlined as much as possible without net damage to the academic mission.
2. Make decisions informed by rigorous data analysis, broad context, and holistic review.
3. Be transparent with budgetary matters to the campus community as well as other stakeholders to aid in their understanding of the fiscal landscape and the decisions that arise. It is especially important that there is transparency on spending and headcount in non-academic units.
4. Seek recommendations from diverse sources when making budgetary decisions and disclose the sources that provide input. Consultation from Academic Senate bodies is critical to evaluate how these decisions impact the academic mission, per Regental Bylaw 40.
5. Our priority is to strive for world-leading excellence when it comes to research and teaching, while maintaining fiscal solvency. Be selective in making decisions to be preeminent in non-academic areas.
6. Protect clinical care as it is integrated to the academic mission and educational goals.
7. Be brave: make difficult and unpopular decisions that may upset stakeholders if those cuts will protect and preserve research, creative activity, and teaching. While many non-academic programs are worthwhile, be prepared to abandon or pause them, if necessary, to preserve the core academic mission.
8. Be clear about main priorities, which should not change from year to year but should guide decision-making regardless of the changing context.
9. Think outside the box to maximize current/future revenue.

January 29, 2026

To: Legislative Assembly Members

From: Megan McEvoy, Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

Re: Principles to Guide Fiscal Decision-Making During the Current Period of Financial Uncertainty

At the January 29, 2026, meeting of the Executive Board (EB), members voted in favor of a motion to endorse and forward the attached Principles for Fiscal Decision-Making at UCLA to the Legislative Assembly for endorsement, which were previously endorsed by the Council on Planning and Budget (CPB) at its January 26, 2026, meeting.

EB and CPB created the principles in response to the Resolution on Financial Transparency and the Restoration of Shared Governance in Budget Planning approved at the [November 13, 2025, meeting](#) of the Legislative Assembly.

Encl.

Cc: Kathy Bawn, Immediate Past Chair, UCLA Academic Senate
April de Stefano, Executive Director, UCLA Academic Senate
Tim Groeling, Vice Chair/Chair Elect, UCLA Academic Senate