

April 15, 2022

Gene Block  
Chancellor

Re: UCLA Health and David Geffen School of Medicine (DGSOM) Finances

Dear Chancellor Block,

At its April 14, 2022 meeting, the Executive Board voted unanimously to send this letter about UCLA Health and David Geffen School of Medicine (DGSOM) finances.

In March 2022, Vice Chancellor Gregg Goldman called together Senate leadership, Council on Planning and Budget Chair Blumenberg, and DGSOM FEC Chair Lazarus with Vice Chancellor Mazziotta to discuss funds flow between UCLA Health and the David Geffen School of Medicine. VC Mazziotta presented a plan for clinical revenue flows and a chart reflecting this plan (which included a committee to review income flow that would be chaired by VC Mazziotta and would be comprised mostly of finance, not academic, experts).

We are heartened by this progress toward transparency and funds flow modernization, and we recognize that years of work have gone into this effort. There is great need for clarity, transparency, and accountability as funds flow across UCLA Health and the DGSOM, and this plan represents real progress.

However, in both the short and longer terms we are concerned about the (minor to absent) role of Senate faculty in the development of this plan and, once it is implemented, in its governance. We understand that the plan will be put to a faculty vote, but we note that **there has been little-to-no Senate faculty input into its development**, and that, in response to questions, such involvement was not contemplated. Our DGSOM faculty colleagues (including but not only the FEC) are a tremendous resource, as are relevant Academic Senate committees.

UCLA is at its best when major initiatives that involve the academic mission are informed by the Academic Senate and its members. Moving forward, we expect that initiatives of such significance to a major academic unit like the DGSOM will build in more faculty input, as opposed to involving the faculty only when rolling out a developed plan. The academic mission should be at the heart of the relationship between DGSOM and UCLA Health.

Thank you for bearing in mind our perspective on the role of the faculty in the development of financial structures and their governance at the DGSOM and beyond.

Sincerely,



Jessica Cattelino  
Chair  
UCLA Academic Senate

Cc: Allison Baird-James, Interim Vice Chancellor and Chief Financial Officer  
Evelyn Blumenberg, Council on Planning and Budget Chair, UCLA Academic Senate  
April de Stefano, Executive Director, UCLA Academic Senate  
Elizabeth Feller, Assistant Director, UCLA Academic Senate  
Yolanda Gorman, Senior Advisor to the Chancellor and Chief of Staff  
Michael Lazarus, Faculty Executive Committee Chair, DGSOM  
Michael Levine, Interim Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost  
John Mazziotta, Vice Chancellor of UCLA Health Sciences and CEO of UCLA Health  
Emily Rose, Assistant Provost and Chief of Staff to the EVCP  
Shane White, Immediate Past Chair, UCLA Academic Senate