May 23, 2024

To: Andrea Kasko, Chair, UCLA Academic Senate

From: Brooke Scelza, Chair, Graduate Council

Re: Partial Suspension of Senate Regulation 505. Final Examinations in Graduate Courses

At its meeting on May 17, 2024, the Graduate Council discussed the suspension of the following sections of Senate Regulation 505:

(B) The instructor’s methods of evaluation must be announced at the beginning of the course. The methods may include in final written examination, a term paper, a final oral examination, a take–home examination, or other evaluation device.

(D) Final written examinations shall not exceed three hours’ duration and shall be given only at the times and places established by the departmental Chair and the Registrar.

The Graduate Council endorsed the suspension of Senate Regulation 505 (B) and (D) and request that the Executive Board partially suspend the regulation for Spring Quarter 2024 only (8 in favor, 1 oppose, 0 abstain). In light of the evolving situation on campus, the Council supports offering faculty the flexibility to adjust the method of evaluation, time, place, and duration of the final exam as appropriate to their course.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, please contact me via Graduate Council Analyst, Emily Le, at ele@senate.ucla.edu.

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