UCRIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Senate

April 26, 2017

To: Cindy Larive Interim Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

From: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair Riverside Division

Re: Review of Endowed Chair Proposals: Pollitt, Stapleton, and Rajchandra

I write to convey the content of Executive Council's review of three proposals for Endowed Chairs: 1) the Pollitt Endowed Term Chairs for Interdisciplinary Research and Learning in the Humanities and Social Sciences (Pollitt Chair); 2) Stapleton Presidential Chair in Innovation and Entrepreneurship (Stapleton Chair); and 3) the Shrimad Rajchandra Endowed Chair in Jain Studies (Rajchandra Chair).

Executive Council supported the Pollitt and Stapleton Chairs with no additional comment beyond those contained in the Senate committee review documents.

Council had substantial reservations regarding the Rajchandra Chair, and do not at this time support its establishment at UCR. Executive Council wishes to amplify the serious concerns and criticisms reflected by the Senate committee reviews. The Committee on Academic Freedom indicates substantial reservations regarding the proposal's general exclusion of language that supports the possibility of critical scholarly inquiry on the topic of Jain Studies, as differentiated from expository and/or "proselytizing" language (e.g. the proposal uses the verb "promote," which may carry implications that compromise critical studies). CAF also objects to the proposal's suggestion that the donors will have a strong involvement in the Chair recruitment process.

The Committee on Academic Personnel also voiced serious concerns regarding the lack of protection for academic freedom in the existing Rajchandra Chair proposal. CAP objects in principal to the proposal's abrogation of the research mission by imposing directives on the direction and content of the prospective Chair's research agenda. CAP echoes CAF's concern over the proposed oversight role of a donor-created "advisory council" that would play a central role in selecting the Chair, and adds that it is not appropriate to mandate that the Chair be required to regularly engage with "the Jain community." Finally, CAP raises the matter of UC Irvine's 2016 rejection of a similar Jain Chair proposal, and states contextual reasons to be concerned that this Endowed Chair could potentially compromise UCR's reputation as a public research university.



February 22, 2017

- To: Dylan Rodriguez Chair, Riverside Division Academic Senate
- Fr: Christian Shelton Chair, Committee on Planning and Budget

Re: Review of the Proposal for Teresa and Byron Endowed Term Chairs for Interdisciplinary Research and Learning in the Humanities and Social Sciences

The Committee on Planning and Budget discussed the proposal to establish the Teresa and Byron Endowed Term Chairs for Interdisciplinary Research and Learning in the Humanities and Social Sciences and found no budgetary concerns. CPB is in support of the proposal by a vote of +7-0-0.

UCRIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Academic Senate

February 27, 2017

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair, Riverside Division

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From: Stephen Wimpenny, Chair O Committee on Educational Policy

Re: Proposal for Teresa & Byron Pollitt Endowed Chairs for Interdisciplinary Research & Learning in Humanities and the Social Sciences

The Committee on Educational Policy reviewed the endowed chair proposal and is generally supportive of the proposal. Based on questions and discussion raised from several members, the Committee recommend that the following few clarifications be made:

- i.) We recommend that the statement that the funds will be distributed according to the Pollitts' interests and intentions be stated more explicitly so that the academic freedom of the Pollitt term Chairs is not constrained.
- ii.) The statement on the Chancellors vis-à-vis discretionary spending should rephrased to make it clear that this is for the endowed chairs and not for other purposes.
- iii.) Are the chairs to be only for faculty within CHASS, or as these are Interdisciplinary chairs, do they also include faculty from other colleges/schools? On a related point, can these positions be used to leverage funds to promote collaborative research between different CHASS departments or just between CHASS and non-CHASS departments. The text is unclear on these points. Please be more explicit and clarify both issues.
- iv.) If the Pollitt chairs do not encompass business as a social science, then we recommend that the photo of the professor and students, which appear to be from the Masters of Accountancy or the MBA program, be removed.
- v.) Within the CHASS part of the package, we note that Dean Pena's signature is absent, even though the text contains comments on the dean's vision for the college. Was this an oversight?
- vi.) On page 12 of the CHASS document a proposal is mentioned. Is the proposal the basis for the Chair selection? It goes on to refer to a list of organizers. A Chair normally goes to one person. Please clarify the intent here.
- vii.) Please clarify whether the statement "Amid all the research by professor, ultimately there needs to be focus on students" refers to undergraduate or graduate students.

UCRIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Academic Senate COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

February 28, 2017

To:	Dylan Rodriguez
	Riverside Division Academic Senate
From:	John Heraty, Chair John Heraty, Chair Committee on Academic Personnel

Re: Teresa & Byron Pollitt Endowed Chairs for Interdisciplinary Research & Learning in Humanities and Social Sciences

At its meeting on February 22, 2017, CAP reviewed the documents for the Teresa & Byron Pollitt Endowed Chairs for Interdisciplinary Research & Learning in Humanities and Social Sciences. CAP was enthusiastic about the establishment of the three Endowed Term Chairs and voted unanimously in favor of the proposal +10-0-0. CAP believes that they will make an important contribution to enhancing both CHASS faculty research and UCR's practical and intellectual contribution to the region and its communities.

However, concern was expressed by several CAP members that the current strategic priorities listed in the proposal do not adequately represent the kinds of research and teaching that many CHASS faculty actually engage in or the contributions that they might make to such a program. The priority "New Voices and Visions – expressing and celebrating our humanity through the visual and performing arts, and nurturing voices from across the rich tapestry of society" appears to foreclose the contribution of CHASS faculty in the critical and interpretive disciplines or to demand a too extensive reframing of their actual research agendas in order to address the priority. CAP feels that it is of great importance to acknowledge in the proposal the potential contribution that the socially and culturally critical work of many CHASS faculty might make to such program.



March 23, 2017

- To: Dylan Rodriguez Chair, Riverside Division Academic Senate
- Fr: Christian Shelton had been Chair, Committee on Planning and Budget

Re: Review of the Proposal for the Stapleton Presidential Chair in Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the School of Business Administration

The Committee on Planning and Budget discussed the proposal to establish the Stapleton Presidential Chair in Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the School of Business Administration and found no budgetary concerns. CPB is in support of the proposal by a vote of +7-0-0. The Committee notes they look forward to receiving notification when the pledged amount has been achieved.

UCRIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Academic Senate

March 31, 2017

- To: Dylan Rodríguez, Chair Riverside Division
- From: Stephen Wimpenny, Chair Committee on Educational Policy
- Re: Proposal for Stapleton Presidential Chair in Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the School of Business Administration

It is unclear that CEP is an appropriate body to review this proposal as it applies to SoBA. However, it has been distributed to the Committee for review and the majority of members have voted to support the proposal. During the review a couple of points were raised, which we feel could do with some clarification.

The first point concerns the issue of a commitment of the UC Presidential Matching Chairs Fund Initiative. Does the campus have such a written commitment of funds to support the proposed chair?

The second point refers to Section IIIA. The current proposal restricts the use of funds to support of faculty salary and/or graduate fellowships in the chair holder's department. Several members of CEP expressed a concern that this may be too restrictive as, for example, the chair could have a student in an interdepartmental program or a graduate program from another department. The current wording would prevent the funding of such a student.

UCRIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Academic Senate COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

March 22, 2017

To:	Dylan Rodriguez
	Riverside Division Academic Senate
From:	John Heraty, Chair July Hand. Committee on Academic Personnel

Re: Stapleton Presidential Chair in Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the School of Business Administration

At its meeting on March 20, 2017, CAP reviewed the documents supporting the Stapleton Endowed Presidential Chair in Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the School of Business Administration. CAP was enthusiastic about the establishment of this Presidential Chair and voted in favor of the proposal +9-0-0 without any further recommendations.



March 23, 2017

- To: Dylan Rodriguez Chair, Riverside Division Academic Senate
- Fr: Christian Shelton Chair, Committee on Planning and Budget

Re: Review of the Proposal for the Shrimad Rajchandra Endowed Chair in Jain Studies

The Committee on Planning and Budget discussed the proposal to establish the Shrimad Rajchandra Endowed Chair in Jain Studies and found no budgetary concerns. CPB is in support of the proposal by a vote of +7-0-0.

Although outside the Committee purview, the members commented that there may be issues around academic freedom, specifically regarding the requirement that the selected candidate be a leader in the Jain community. CPB found this concerning as it is beyond the University's commitment. While faculty may choose to participate in community leadership as part of their service, dictating the form of this service could amount to directing the use of faculty salary to this purpose.

UCRIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Academic Senate

March 6, 2017

- To: Dylan Rodríguez, Chair Riverside Division
- From: Stephen Wimpenny, Chair
- Re: Proposal for Shrimad Rajchandra Endowed Chair in Jain Studies

The Committee on Educational Policy reviewed the proposal for the Shrimad Rajchandra Endowed Chair in Jain Studies at their March 3, 2017 meeting and voted to support the proposal.

UCRIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Academic Senate COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

March 22, 2017

To:	Dylan Rodriguez
	Riverside Division Academic Senate
From:	John Heraty, Chair June Hand. Committee on Academic Personnel
	David Lloyd, Vice Chair David Lloyd, Vice Chair Committee on Academic Personnel

Re: Shrimad Rajchandra Endowed Chair Proposal in Jain Studies

CAP reviewed the Endowed Chair proposal and appreciates the efforts of the Dean of CHASS to attract donations to support the development of the academic program at UCR. However, CAP has a number of serious concerns that prevent the committee from considering the proposal as currently presented.

Firstly, as it is proposed, the wording in the proposal does not guarantee academic freedom in the selection and oversight of either the candidate or the research being undertaken. CAP focused on two core issues within the proposal.

A) Section II.A. paragraph 2 is inappropriate and should be removed. This statement is too detailed with regard to the direction of research and the need to focus research on specific principles of the religion. The chosen chair must have the freedom to conduct research in any topic within the area of Jain studies. Paragraph 3 is short, succinct and implies no such boundaries.

B) under the Exhibit A Stewardship agreement, CAP perceived there to be too much oversight implied in the creation of an advisory council by the donors that would be involved with the process and progress of the Chair's recruitment, and require regular engagement by the Chair with the Jain community. This goes beyond reporting the activities of the Chair to the donors and toward an inappropriate requirement of mandatory engagement.

While the standard language in the Dean's proposal on page 2 indicates that "the intellectual independence of the chair holder's scholarly independence is assured", such language does not appear explicitly in the body of the Memorandum of Understanding.

Secondly, the proposal also raised concerns with regard to its potential impact on UCR's reputation. CAP noted that a similar Jain Chair position was proposed and rejected at UC

Irvine: https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2016/02/22/uc-irvine-moves-reject-endowedchair-gifts-donor-strong-opinions-about-study. In that case, the Jain Chair donors were associated with a set of endowed chairs that had direct ties to the Dharma Civilization Foundation, which was found to seek inappropriate control over the academic study of Hinduism. A UCI committee found the endowment proposal to be inconsistent with the values of the university and the Dean decided not to proceed with the chairs. The UCI Jain Chair was also withdrawn for further consideration. CAP requires independent assurance that the current Endowed Chair in Jain Studies would not be subject to similar restrictions on the research agenda and scholarly findings of any Chair appointed under the terms of the endowment, and seeks assurance that due diligence has been undertaken to guarantee the independence of the holder of the Chair.

Further, the identified donors of this Chair, Dr. Jasvant Modi and Dr. Meera Modi, were in September 2016 implicated in an illegal Patient-Transfer Medicare scheme to defraud Medicare and Medi-Cal through the illegal recruitment of Skid Row residents: https://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/la-nursing-home-two-physicians-pay-over-35-millionresolve-allegations-they. UCR may be tainted by that scandal.

While recognizing that the claims resolved by the settlement are allegations only and that there has been no determination of liability, CAP feels that it is of the utmost importance that UCR should ensure that its donors' reputations do not bring that of the university into question.

UCRIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Academic Senate COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

March 30, 2017

To:	Dylan Rodriguez, Chair Riverside Division of the Academic Senate
From:	Emma Aronson, Chair Eman Committee on Academic Freedom

Re: Shrimad Rajchandra Endowed Chair Proposal in Jain Studies

The Committee on Academic Freedom (CAF) reviewed the documents supporting the proposed establishment of the Shrimad Rajchandra Endowed Chair in Jain Studies. As presented, CAF is unable to endorse the proposal and respectfully requests the following concerns be addressed:

The wording in the proposal does not guarantee academic freedom and appears to support proselytizing rather than academics. The proposal does not contain any academic or critical components. As a result, CAF suggests that more academic language be added to the second paragraph of section II. A. before "its fundamental principles". For example, this language may include offering courses on critical inquiry, critical understanding, comparisons to the study of other religions, etc. In addition, CAF recommends removing the word "promote" and replacing it with "provide opportunities for".

II. Purpose and Use of Endowment

A. Second paragraph

"The endowed chair will promote the study of Jain Religion to students at all levels at UCR, offering courses on its fundamental principles, such as Ahimsa (non-violence), Aparigrah (non-possessiveness), and Anekantvad (pluralistic perspective) while examining their relevance and implication for the modern society. An important responsibility of the Chair holder will include engaging students in exploring the practical significance of such principles for enduring peace, social harmony and ecological sustainability."

Members further expressed serious concerns over the language found in Exhibit A Stewardship Agreement that suggests the donors have a strong involvement in the Chair recruitment process. CAF requests Peter Hayashida's office provide copies of the previous draft proposals to the committee in order to evaluate how the current language was derived.

It is CAF's understanding that UCI recently established an Endowed Chair in Jain Studies. To provide more substantial recommendations, CAF respectfully requests a copy of UCI's approved agreement for the comparison of the requirements presented in the UCR proposal.

The Committee is also interested in learning if Jainism is being promoted at other UC's apart from UCR and UCI.