UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE

CHAIR, ACADEMIC SENATE
RIVERSIDE DIVISION
UNIVERSITY OFFICE BUILDING, RM 225

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April 19, 2017

Jim Chalfant, Chair, Academic Council
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, CA 94607-5200

RE: (Systemwide Senate Review) Draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Policy

Dear Jim,

Executive Council discussed the Draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Policy and the Committee reviews on April 10, 2017. What follows is a brief summary of the Riverside Division's feedback on the Draft Policy.

The Committee on International Education and Committee on Research chose not to comment on the Draft Policy. The Committee on Faculty Welfare found the policy to be reasonable, and did not add substantive comment.

The most serious and substantive comment was provided by the Committee on Library and Information Technology (LIT). This committee expressed concerns over the implementation of the policy, and the Draft Policy's lack of discussion over what body will be charged with enforcing Systemwide regulations. Two important additional matters were also raised by LIT: 1) the possibility of drones causing noise pollution on campus, and thus disturbing students who are studying, listening to classroom lectures, or who may be sensitive to ambient noise. Addition of a noise policy would thus seem to be in order. 2) The possibility that drones might be used to conduct electronic surveillance on campus. The Committee suggests that a specific prohibition on such functions might be added to the Draft Policy.

Finally, the Committee on Academic Freedom commented that the use of drones will require an advance flight plan, and that this might restrict creative research endeavors that could take place in the immediate moment. The Committee suggests that adherence to FAA guidelines might still be accomplished by creating flight plans for a range of locations rather than a specific set of coordinates.

Sincerely yours,

Dylan Rodríguez
Professor of Ethnic Studies and Chair of the Riverside Division

CC: Hilary Baxter, Executive Director of the Academic Senate
        Cherysa Cortez, Executive Director of UCR Academic Senate Office

March 30, 2017

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
           Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

From: Emma Aronson, Chair
           Committee on Academic Freedom

Re: **Proposed Policy: Draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)
           Policy**

The Committee on Academic Freedom met on March 15, 2017 to discuss the proposed draft
Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) System. Members expressed concern over the
need to require a flight plan in advance of using a UAS which may inhibit research creativity and
environmental issues that take place in the spur of the moment. The Committee suggests the
policy stay within FAA guidelines, but allow for data flights to be obtained for a range of locations
rather than for specific coordinates. The Committee does not wish to place an undue burden of
specificity on faculty, but to minimize the red tape that would prevent research activities.

February 28, 2017

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
        Riverside Division

From: Richard Arnott, Chair
        Committee on Research

RE: Systemwide Review of Draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System UAS
Policy.

Since none of its members is familiar with the issues related to the use of drones, the
Committee decided not to formally opine on the Policy.

COMMITTEE ON FACULTY WELFARE

March 23, 2017

To: Dylan Rodriguez
             Riverside Division Academic Senate

From: Victor Lippit, Chair   *Victor D. Lippit*
             Committee on Faculty Welfare

Re: Draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Policy

The Committee on Faculty Welfare met on March 14th to consider the proposed draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Policy. Members commented that the policy does not seem to apply additional constraints on faculty beyond the expectations stated in the APM and FAA guidelines. However, UCR will have to wait for the implementation of the policy to foresee any issues that may arise. Overall, the Committee found the policy to be reasonable and did not have any substantial comments to add.

February 6, 2017

To: Dylan Rodríguez, Chair
          Riverside Division

From: Kurt Anderson, Chair *Kurt E. Ah—*
          Committee on International Education

Re: Draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System Policy

The Committee on International Education reviewed the proposed draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System Policy and opted not to comment on the proposal, as the proposed draft does not affect the Committee's purview of international education.

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March 23, 2017

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair
        Riverside Division

From: Leonard Nunney
        Committee on Library and Information Technology

Re: [Systemwide Review] Draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS)
        Policy

The Committee on Library and Information Technology reviewed the [Systemwide Review] Draft Presidential Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) Policy at their March 7, 2017 meeting and is in broad support of the Policy. However, there was concern over how the Policy would be enforced. There seems to be no statement regarding the entity responsible for enforcing Systemwide regulations. Thus while a "Designated Local Authority" is charged with overseeing enforcement of local UAS related policies, and UCOP EH&S for the Systemwide policy, it is not stated how enforcement would occur and what the consequences of policy violations would be.

Two more specific issues not addressed in the policy document were of concern to the committee.

(1) The potential effects of drone noise on students studying, taking examinations, or listening to lectures, and on research that may be sensitive to ambient noise. It would seem appropriate to place Systemwide limits on noise levels, which could be tailored locally to protect sensitive locations.

(2) The potential for drones to harvest electronic information regarding campus email traffic and other IT. A ban on the use of such technical surveillance equipment would seem appropriate.