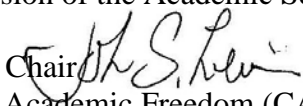


UC RIVERSIDE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA | **Academic Senate**
COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM

May 1, 2019

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

From: John S. Levin, Chair 
Committee on Academic Freedom (CAF)

Re: New APM: APM - 011, Academic Freedom, Protection of Professional Standards, and Responsibilities of Non-Faculty Academic Appointees

The Committee on Academic Freedom reviewed “New APM: APM - 011, Academic Freedom, Protection of Professional Standards, and Responsibilities of Non-Faculty Academic Appointees,” but briefly and with some confusion and diversity of opinions. Although one member viewed the policy language as clear, others did not. One member noted that if the intention was to include librarians as covered by UC academic freedom policy, then the policy should be more specific. But this same member noted that librarians do conduct research, and thus the need for the policy was dubious. Another member questioned why those who do not teach or conduct research should be protected by academic freedom policies (“When non-faculty academic appointees with titles listed in APM - 112-4(b) perform work that contributes to or supports the fundamental mission of the University, but that is not teaching, research, scholarship, or the public dissemination of knowledge, they must be free to pursue this work according to applicable, acknowledged, national, professional standards, if such standards exist, and are obligated by the responsibilities established by these standards”). Finally, one comment conceded that the policy is broad enough to cover all potential threats to academic freedom for as many UC employees as could be considered.

In short, the policy lacks general clarity and specificity so that a group of Senate committee members (Academic Freedom committee) could understand the policy, initially, and then determine whether or not to recommend it.