



**GRADUATE COUNCIL**

February 25, 2021

To: Jason Stajich, Chair  
Riverside Division

From: Amanda Lucia, Chair  
Graduate Council

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Amanda Lucia".

Re: [Campus Review] Report Review: Campus Safety Task Force draft report & recommendations

Graduate Council discussed the Campus Safety Task Force draft report and recommendations at their February 18, 2021 meeting.

The Council was appreciative of this response to Campus Safety concerns, but members also expressed frustration with its mild reform measures. Instead, Council members encouraged the Task Force to operate in dialogue with the organized abolition network that is also active and currently mobilizing on campus. Some Council members were impressed with the many measures and provisions being considered, while other members felt that creating a task force and renaming UCRPD was not the answer to this critical issue - especially for a majority POC campus. Graduate Council members noted that UCRPD has a large budget, including 58 police officers, which seems excessive considering the city of Beaumont has 6 police officers. Why does UCR need so many police officers? The Graduate Council was supportive of reframing UCRPD's purpose from policing to safety, including the change in attire. The question was raised as to whether the weaponry that UCRPD carries would be changed as well. The Graduate Council expressed concern that UCR faculty who research issues of racism, policing, and incarceration (of which there are significant numbers on campus) are not included in this task force. And while the Council agreed that anti-bias training is less than effective, nevertheless, members agreed that it should be included in any proposal related to policing, which is deeply embroiled in bias and racist social structures in the United States. Relatedly, UCRPD can do more to diversify the police force. The Graduate Council was

concerned that while the measures proposed by the Campus Safety Task Force are a very good start, they significantly underestimate the gravity of concern collectively voiced by the campus community, and particularly students, staff, and faculty of color. GSA representatives shared that many students intend to stay off campus until UCRPD is fully abolished due to safety concerns. There are also students at UCB and UCSC who plan to do this. Graduate Council concurred that this draft policy needed to go much further and should be coordinating more directly with UCR's affiliated abolition network.