



**COMMITTEE ON PREPARATORY EDUCATION**

March 4, 2021

To: Jason Stajich, Chair  
Riverside Division

From: Jingsong Zhang, Chair  
Committee on Preparatory Education

A handwritten signature in black ink, enclosed in a thin black rectangular box. The signature appears to read "Jingsong Zhang".

Re: Campus Review: Draft Strategic Plan

The Committee on Preparatory Education reviewed the Draft Strategic Plan and offer the following comments:

- 1) pp. 8-9: "Become a Nationally Recognized Model for Inclusive Excellence in Graduate Education": this requires adequately funding graduate programs to make us competitive with other UCs, state R1s, and Ivy League programs. Where will the money for this come from?
- 2) pp. 11-12: "Leverage Technology to Increase Educational Access": the first item on this agenda is "expanding high-quality online instruction." The concern is that this is really an effort to replace f2f instruction with online, which is cheaper, and less effective. It actually runs counter to the previous imperative of building campus community by "making our large campus feel intimate and personal." How will that be achieved if resources flow away from physical classrooms to online instruction?
- 3) p. 16: "Provide Leadership on Pressing Societal Issues": one of these is "racial justice." This needs to be related to the task force on campus safety. It also needs to be related to the previous goal, "Make Campus-Community Boundaries More Permeable."
- 4) p. 18-19: all of the budget items underneath "sustainably pursuing our goals" are a variety of streamlining existing systems, but they do not address chronic understaffing and underfunding. If UCR has a hope of realizing the grand dreams outlined in this document, it needs to change the UC governance structure whereby the wealthier campuses vote to withhold adequate resources from UCR and from UCM, the campuses that serve BIPOC.
- 5) p. 20: "Ensuring Accountability": how are we going to hold the system-level funding accountable to us -- our students, staff, and faculty? That is missing from this document.