GRADUATE COUNCIL

October 21, 2020

To: Jason Stajich, Chair
   Riverside Division

From: Amanda Lucia, Chair
       Graduate Council

Re: 2020-21 Curtailment Program

The Graduate Council reviewed the proposal for the 2020-21 Curtailment Program and agreed more review time is needed to provide meaningful feedback.

The proposal states "Unless otherwise exempted, all staff and fiscal-year academic personnel would participate in the program." and "For academic-year faculty, the program would be implemented as an equivalent reduction in salary (based on the salary tiers established under the program) but would not result in additional paid or unpaid time off." It is unclear who exactly is bearing this burden – will upper level administration also participate in the curtailment? Is the burden being distributed equitably?

The proposal states “We will only move forward with a curtailment expansion after implementing other prudent financial savings measures.” It would be helpful to know what the ‘other prudent measures’ are.

It was unclear to the Council why a new process is being designed when UC already has a furlough program in place. Why are time and resources being devoted to reinventing the wheel? It would be helpful to see a discussion of why curtailment is superior at this time to other mechanisms for salary savings.

Lastly, the Council was deeply concerned that campuses and their respective committees were given such a short time period with which to review and discuss this measure. Such action seems to be an attempt to bypass legitimate consultation and discussion.