

October 18, 2020

To: Jason Stajich, Chair  
Riverside Division

From: Theodore Garland, Jr., Chair, Executive Committee  
College of Natural and Agricultural Science

Re: Systemwide Review - Report Review: Online Undergraduate Degree  
Task Force Report

The Committee observed that each of the models has plusses and minuses, but that it doesn't seem practical to do a broad online policy for all of UC. There are some possibilities for a small number of CNAS courses to be done remotely, that there may be some practicalities for some departments if they were interested, and we can reconsider some of the insights from the Report as we continue to learn more about remote learning.

At this time some of the strategies are still in the abstract because we haven't experienced them yet and we should be careful to consider our UCR population in terms of how they manage remote learning compared to other institutions. The Committee considered that remote learning, which is what UCR is experiencing now, is a different experience than full-fledged online learning. The Committee also noted that there needs to be an equitable distribution of resources to support the activities, proportional to the needs of the respective campus, and so it would be practical for this report to include financial support. Ultimately, the Committee concluded that with respect to the possibility of degrees being done entirely online, we don't see that as feasible for our college.

Cheers,

