



January 5, 2024

TO: Sang-Hee Lee, Ph.D., Chair, Academic Senate, UCR Division

FROM: Marcus Kaul, Ph.D., Chair, Faculty Executive Committee, UCR School of Medicine

SUBJECT: Response to [Campus Review] First Day Complete (FDC), an Equitable Access (EA) Program

Dear Sang-Hee,

The SOM Faculty Executive Committee has reviewed *First Day Complete (FDC), an Equitable Access (EA) Program*. The FEC had the following comments:

The committee agrees with the proposal's wide-standing agreement that UCR's student population needs this program, and that the campus would benefit from it. However, the committee is concerned that the proposal does not specify, if students are automatically enrolled in the program or if an opt-out option is available. The committee would prefer an opt-out option available to each student at UCR for each quarter. Furthermore, the committee thinks the proposal might prove difficult for students who are provided free material for their classes by faculty. So, these students would be obligated by the proposal to pay for a service they do not use.

The committee noted the proposal needs to clearly lay out how the University will negotiate with Barnes & Noble to obtain cheaper access to books for students. The committee is concerned regarding language in the proposal that would allow Barnes & Noble to refuse to negotiate with the University, such as when materials lack an ISBN.

Ultimately, the committee would like a more nuanced approach to obtaining lower class material prices, and the committee is hesitant to allow Barnes & Noble such leverage in negotiating, as it may enable Barnes & Noble to dictate the teaching options of faculty.

Otherwise, the committee has no further comments.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Kaul".

Marcus Kaul, Ph.D.
Chair, Faculty Executive Committee School of Medicine