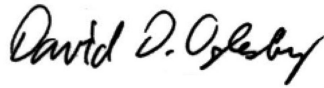


PLANNING AND BUDGET

October 7, 2025

To: Kenneth Barish, Chair
Riverside Division

From: David Oglesby, Chair
Committee on Planning and Budget



Re: [Systemwide Review] Report Review: *Interim report of the Academic Senate Task Force on UC Adaptation to Disruptions (UCAD)*

The Committee on Planning and Budget (CPB) reviewed the *Interim report of the Academic Senate Task Force on UC Adaptation to Disruptions (UCAD)*. CPB has the following comments and questions:

- The CPB is fully aware of the gravity of the financial situation that the UC system faces as a result of declining public support, disruption of federal research funding, a significant increase in the cost of graduate student employees, and impending demographic changes. Significant changes will likely be necessary, and these should be developed deliberatively and in consultation with faculty.
- The interim report articulates “Budgetary constraints should not drive the academic mission.” (Page 7) This should be affirmed, but this does not resonate throughout the document.
- The interim report does not document the exceptionalism of the UC System in its mission and outcomes.
- How is the Academic Senate being consulted regularly to participate transparently before an economic strategy reshapes the priorities?
- This interim report does suggest that cutting undergraduate major programs, shutting down graduate cohorts and/or moving some to only some UC campuses, and decreasing research-focused faculty are strategies that should be used. These are possibilities but should not yet be presumed as best practice.
- A demographic cliff is a reasonable expectation; at what point does the strategy to count major enrollees and/or rely on enrollment for budgetary means fail as reasonable strategies?

- What would be the metrics be to determine a “disrupted research program”? (Pages 2 and 3)
- Pursuing donor funds is always an excellent idea. It may be easier to find funding for “ramp up” activities than “ramp down” activities. (Pages 2-4)
- Extending review periods for affected faculty sounds promising, but it assumes that either the impediments are temporary, or that the faculty will be able to transition to a new, better-supported research area.
- It is not clear how recruiting more teaching professors and joint faculty will improve the situation for the research mission of the UC. It seems more like a recipe for downgrading the research enterprise.
- Would the discontinuation of programs be based only on quality, or potentially on financial or other measures of viability? In other words, will reviewers recommend discontinuation of high quality, excellent outcome programs that are underfunded and too small to be viable without additional support?