

September 1, 2026

To: Kenneth Barish, Chair
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

From: Jerayr Haleblian
Chair, School of Business Executive Committee

Re: (Consultation): ***Proposed Accreditation Regulations***

The EC School of Business notes that the UC Riverside Faculty Operations Manual defines academic freedom by emphasizing instructor autonomy and scholarly judgment within their field of competence. In direct contrast, the proposed DOE regulations mandate that institutions measure and prioritize "intellectual diversity," a requirement that UCR administration notes would impinge upon academic freedom by forcing faculty to balance ideological viewpoints rather than relying on rigorous academic standards.