




April 23, 2026

TO: Ken Barish, Chair
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

FROM: Rachel Wu, Chair 
CHASS Executive Committee

RE: Report Review: Draft Report of the UC Tribal Lands Workgroup

The CHASS Faculty Executive Committee discussed the draft report of the UC Tribal Lands Workgroup and has some feedback for the preparers. In general, the committee welcomes the work of this group and the proposals therein to establish better relationships with the California Native peoples on whose lands current UC infrastructure stands. However, our discussion led to certain shortcomings of the report that can be easily addressed moving forward. In general, while recognizing that the UC is a large organization with multiple campuses and spaces across the State, the report does not seem to engage with specific and contextual Native nations; this must be addressed at this stage in some way or another and not relegated to a next stage with a liaison. As it stands, the report does not list or name the many different tribes and nations that would be impacted by these new relations; at minimum we encourage this workgroup to provide that guidance for the University as a whole.

The Committee also requests clarification and specification on the parcel maps; as it is written now, it is unclear if these parcel maps are informative or if they are meant to substitute or dialogue with specific tribal definitions of ancestral lands.

The Committee also encourages clarification on how the campus tribal liaison will be appointed and to whom will they report? How will this position be funded? Currently, it seems this report proposes that campus administration appoint this liaison but does not detail more. This is another instance where more and concrete collaboration with specific nations is encouraged.

Finally, the Committee discussed how this report seems at this stage to be a series of general recommendations for the system but does not take into account existing and historically present units and departments already engaging with this work. Namely, at UCR we have the Native Student Programs and the California Center for Native Nations, both of which work with

different populations revolving around Native, Indigenous and Tribal realities. We encourage the preparers to look at each campus and what kind of work and relations they have been establishing already.