



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR AND PROVOST

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April 23, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

Thank you for your work on Phase I of the academic planning process. A total of 87 goals, and their alignment to the APWG criteria and indices,¹ were submitted across the three schools, the soon to be proposed Gallo School, Graduate Division, and the Library. A single summary of these alignments is attached. It will be publicly accessible on the academic planning page of the new Academic Planning and Budget website (apb.ucmerced.edu) within the next few weeks.

The goals were reviewed and discussed by CAPRA. There was much appreciation for the considerable work this represented. Members were encouraged in particular by what appears to be good support for all APWG indices and criteria at this early stage of the planning process. Members, however, recognized that the proposed relationships between goals, indices, and criteria are likely to be revised as schools and divisions establish strategies for meeting these goals. In other words, as plans become more concrete so will the connections between school and division goals and the aspirations for the campus outlined in the APWG document (a slightly revised version of which is enclosed, ensuring consistency of terms²).

With this in mind, and as planning continues, we encourage each school and division to

- review each others' aspirational goals and assess their relationships to the indices of success;
- consider how the school/division's goals may complement those of other schools/divisions to support in the collective the campus's aspirations outlined by the APWG indices and criteria;
- prioritize their own goals.

Finally, we recognize the COVID-19 epidemic will have an indelible impact on the coming several years. It is our shared belief that now more than ever we need academic planning to make transparent our priorities and to support transparency in decision-making at all levels of the campus. It is through our collective commitment to the process of planning that we will be able to continue to move toward our aspirations even if the timeline for progress is extended. Toward that end, please anticipate receiving guidelines and a timeline for Phase II of the process that take this new context into consideration.

Thank you, again, for all your excellent work on Phase I. We look forward to Phase II in which strategies for realizing these goals are established.

¹ Per p.3 of the revised APWG report (enclosed), the Indices of Success are: (1) UC Quality Scholarship, (2) UC Quality Academic Programs and (3) Diversity. Pages 5 to 10 of the revised report lay out, the relationship of each index to its associated set of criteria and, for each criterion, the set of measures for tracking campus progress on the criterion.

² The document was revised to address internal inconsistencies in the use of the terms Indices of Success, criteria and measures. The document is now consistent with public definitions of these terms.

Sincerely,



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EVC/Provost



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Chair, CAPRA

CC:

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