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*Chair of the Assembly of the Academic Senate
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April 2, 2020

**ACADEMIC SENATE DIVISION CHAIRS
SYSTEMWIDE COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Re: Statement on Course Materials Developed for Remote Teaching during the COVID-19
Emergency**

Dear Colleagues,

At its April 1, 2020 meeting, the Academic Council unanimously approved the attached statement on course materials developed for remote instruction during the COVID-19 crisis:

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have additional questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kum-Kum Bhavnani".

Kum-Kum Bhavnani, Chair
Academic Council

cc: Provost Brown
Senate Directors
Systemwide Senate Director Baxter

Course Materials Developed for Remote Teaching during the COVID-19 Emergency

In the best interests of UC students and in fulfillment of the UC teaching mission, UC faculty/instructors are developing remote teaching efforts during the suspension of in-person classroom teaching because of the COVID-19 emergency. These teaching efforts are strictly temporary, emergency measures undertaken under extraordinary and unprecedented circumstances.

In line with statements from several individual campuses, Academic Council asserts that any course materials created, recorded, and stored in support of remote instruction as a result of COVID-19 contingencies do not make use of “exceptional university resources” and that copyright of such materials inheres in the faculty member or instructor. This accords with systemwide UC policy, whereby faculty and instructors hold copyright in any course materials that they create, including but not limited to recordings of their classes, unless the creation of these materials involves “exceptional university resources” ([UC Ownership of Course Materials policy](#)).

Given the temporary and emergency nature of these remote teaching efforts, Academic Council insists that the materials produced during this emergency are not to be used for online instruction in the future. Outside of this difficult period, it is not in the best interests of students, instructors or the UC Administration to use recordings and other course materials produced to support remote learning during this emergency, except as the copyright holders themselves may consider this useful.