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*Assembly of the Academic Senate, Academic Council
University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
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June 23, 2004

**M.R.C. GREENWOOD
PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT**

Re: Academic Council's Recommendation on Proposed Revisions to Academic Personnel Policy 260 – University Professor

Dear M.R.C.:

In a memorandum this past January, Provost King expressed his concern about the marked rise in nominations for University Professor Appointments, and questioned whether the proposed appointments are uniformly of the extraordinarily high standards that characterized the initial appointments. To help ensure that equivalent standards are applied across the campuses for nominations to University Professor, Provost King suggested that the role of the Academic Senate in the review and appointment process be enlarged to provide an opportunity for the University Committee on Academic Personnel (UCAP) to review the report of the systemwide ad-hoc review committee and to offer its recommendation to the Provost and President. UCAP unanimously agreed with this suggestion and recommended that APM 260 be amended to include this provision.

In addition to UCAP's proposed new advisory role, before the revised APM was sent out for formal review in March, other provisions were added to strengthen the policy. UCAP, the UCSD and UCI divisions and the UCM task force reviewed and submitted comment letters on the revisions, and the matter was discussed by the full Academic Council membership during our June 23rd meeting. In general, the Academic Council supported the changes, but several members had a concern about the proposed provision that would limit the number of University Professors in active service on any one campus at any one time. One of those members was the UCAP Chair who felt that the University should be free to appoint anyone worthy of this honor and not be limited by the number of University Professors already present on a campus. The UCAP Chair was also of the view that the appointment should be indefinite only as long as the incumbent is fully performing as described in the APM. There was an additional concern raised by the San Diego Divisional Chair about using the word "salary" to describe position in rank for this prestigious appointment. She suggested replacing the word "salary" in the last sentence of 260-10 a. with "at the above-Scale level."

Thank you for giving the Academic Council the opportunity to comment on this important policy change.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry".

Lawrence Pitts, Chair
Academic Council

cc. Academic Council