



Steven W. Cheung
Chair, Assembly of the
Academic Senate
Faculty Representative,
UC Board of Regents

Academic Senate

Office of the President
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senate.universityofcalifornia.edu

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April 28, 2025

Michael V. Drake, M.D.
President, University of California

Re: Assembly Action on Proposed Revisions to Senate Regulation 424.A.3
(A-G Ethnic Studies)

Dear President Drake,

At its April 23, 2025 meeting, the Assembly of the Academic Senate concluded its multi-year deliberations on the [proposed revisions to Senate Regulation 424.A.3](#), which would have introduced a one-semester ethnic studies requirement to the A–G course pattern for freshman admission to the University. The Assembly voted on whether to endorse the proposal and forward it to you for further consideration. The final vote outcome was 12 in favor and 29 opposed, with 12 abstentions. This outcome means the Senate no longer has an active proposal to revise UC’s A-G subject area requirements.

As background, the proposed Academic Senate regulation amendments were advanced by the Academic Council in July 2024 following [two rounds](#) of systemwide Senate review. The proposal aimed to align UC’s admissions requirements with California Assembly Bill (AB) 101, which requires an ethnic studies course as a state requirement for public high school students graduating in the 2029–2030 school year and beyond.

Following a substantive [discussion](#) in December 2024, the Assembly voted to postpone action on the proposal until April 2025 to allow time for additional information gathering to clarify uncertainties surrounding state funding for AB 101 and unresolved implementation challenges, particularly equitable access to ethnic studies courses. Since then, the Academic Senate confirmed with UC State Governmental Relations and the State Board of Education that AB 101 implementation is contingent on state funding, which has not yet been appropriated. Without this funding, the ethnic studies high school graduation requirement will not take effect statewide. These and other concerns raised during the December Assembly meeting ultimately contributed to the Assembly’s decision not to approve the proposal.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven W. Cheung". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Steven" and last name "Cheung" clearly distinguishable.

Steven W. Cheung
Chair, Academic Council

cc: Assembly of the Academic Senate
Provost and Executive Vice President Newman
Secretary and Chief of Staff Lyall
Associate Vice President and Executive Director Yoon-Wu
Associate Vice President and Director Fullerton
Senate Division Executive Directors
Senate Executive Director Lin