



OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS
TEL: (858) 534-3130

9500 GILMAN DRIVE
LA JOLLA, CALIFORNIA 92093-0001
URL: WWW.EVC.UCSD.EDU

January 22, 2021

Subject: Senate-Administration Workgroup on Distance Learning for Academic Excellence and Resilience Charge

During Summer 2020, a Senate Task Force on Remote Learning Long-Term Policies and Strategies and the Administration's Educational Continuity Task Force were convened to make short- and long-term recommendations arising from the impacts of COVID-19 on campus teaching. To build on the efforts of these two task forces, and in light of the campus' experience in dealing with COVID-19, a Senate/Administration Workgroup on Distance Learning for Academic Excellence and Resilience is being convened.

The Senate-Administration Workgroup on Distance Learning is charged with reviewing the following:

- Actions the UC system, divisional Senate, and UC San Diego have taken to support distance learning and remote instruction, along with efforts to uphold academic excellence and organizational continuity.
- Data from university and system-wide surveys about students' and faculty experiences in the remote learning environment.
- Effective practices by which divisions/schools and academic or administrative have identified or addressed the needs of remote learners and instructors.
- Information and ideas from other UC campuses, peer institutions, and research about the impacts of distance education on institutional resilience and the productivity, wellbeing, and success of distance learners.
- Findings and recommendations from the Senate Task Force on Remote Learning Long-Term Policies & Strategies and the Educational Continuity Task Force.

Based on the above, this workgroup is charged to:

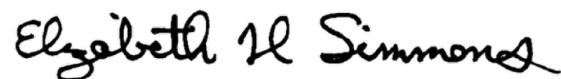
- Develop recommendations for how UC San Diego should position itself to minimize the impact of future disruptions to the educational mission, be they pandemics, earthquakes, wildfires, etc.
- In particular, examine how remote and online teaching programs and tools should be developed in anticipation of future disruptions.
- Consider and make recommendations on the role of remote (R) classes as vehicles for (a) delivering a high-quality education and (b) providing campus resilience.

- Provide guidance on the role, if any, that fully-online undergraduate degree programs should play in the educational mission of UC San Diego.
- Examine and report on how remote and online instruction could be used to provide faculty and students with personal flexibility in order to accommodate campus and personal research with a focus on EDI priorities.

This workgroup will convene at the beginning of Winter Quarter 2021. We would appreciate the workgroup's final report submitted to the EVC Office and Senate leadership by April 30, 2021.

With best regards,

Steven Constable
Academic Senate Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth H. Simmons". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elizabeth H. Simmons
Executive Vice Chancellor

CC: Dean Antony
Chair Cook
Senior Associate Vice Chancellor Continetti
Vice Chancellor Pettitt
Director Rodriguez
Chair Russell
Vice Chancellor Satterlund
Chair Teranes