

April 6, 2015

**Rahim Reed**

Associate Executive Vice Chancellor  
Campus Community Relations

**RE: Reaffirmation of the Principles of Community**

The Reaffirmation of the Principles of Community review was forwarded to all standing committees of the Davis Division of the Academic Senate, including school and college Faculty Executive Committees. Responses were received from the Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity, Faculty Welfare, Academic Freedom and Responsibility, and Graduate Council. The comments, summarized below, informed the Davis Division's position.

Overall the majority responded in support of the revised Principles of Community document. However, some committees provided additional points of improvement. The Affirmative Action & Diversity Committee, the Committee on Academic Freedom and Education, and Graduate Council recommend the following modifications:

- **The first sentence should be split into two sentences:**  
“The University of California, Davis, is first and foremost an institution of learning, teaching, and research. UC Davis reflects and is committed to serving the needs of a global society comprising all people and a multiplicity of ideas.”
- **Modifying the first bullet point by replacing “demonstrated” with “characterized”:**  
“We affirm the dignity inherent in all of us, and we strive to maintain a climate of equity and justice characterized by the respect for each other.”
- **Splitting the last bullet point into two sentences:**  
“We recognize that each of us has an obligation to the UC Davis community of which we have chosen to be a part. We will strive to build a climate and culture based on mutual respect and caring.”
- **Possibly adding a unifying ending to the last sentence of the second to last paragraph:**  
“We take pride in our various achievements, and we celebrate our differences *that are an integral and valuable part of our diverse common humanity.*”

A minority opinion was construed by an individual commenting that the sentence (“We further recognize the right...” in the freedom of expression section) is not aspirational

and therefore unnecessary. The wording of the sentence seems to be more related to an attempt to include a form of legal protection.

The position of the Academic Senate is overall support for the revised Principles of Community. We would appreciate consideration of the bullets contained at the beginning of the memo and have included a minority opinion for the record.

Sincerely,



André Knoesen, Chair  
Davis Division of the Academic Senate  
Professor: Electrical and Computer Engineering