

February 27, 2015

Dear Campus Community,

Last year, as we approached the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UC Davis Principles of Community (POC) Chancellor Katehi created and charged the Principles of Community 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reaffirmation Planning Committee to develop a revised draft of the POC. In her charge letter to the committee the Chancellor stated “For the past 24 years, the UC Davis POC have served to guide us in our efforts to build an inclusive, intellectually vibrant and welcoming community. Now, as we approach this milestone anniversary, it is an opportune time to consider how changes within our campus community require us to evaluate how the POC might need to be amended so they continue to be current and maintain their relevancy for UC Davis well into the future”. In completing our task, the POC Reaffirmation Committee also noted from our charge that one of the qualities that makes the POC so effective and compelling is their relative brevity and clarity of our values as a community. Thus it was not the committee’s intention to completely revise the POC. Instead, we created edits where required to continue to inspire the concept of advocacy and underscore the POC’s standing and meaning as an aspirational statement.

Attached you will find a final draft with edits in bold of the (newly proposed) POC along with the original version of the POC statement. Please review the edited draft version and provide feedback, comments or suggestion via email to the Office of Campus Community Relations (<http://occr.ucdavis.edu>) by Monday, March 16, 2015. Please note we have also scheduled a series of open forums to discuss the draft POC document with members of the campus community. The Open Forum attachment includes the date, times and venues where the forums will be held next week. We would like to encourage all members of the campus community to attend at least one of these forums. **The Provost will attend the last open forum on March 5<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am to 12:00pm in the ARC Ballroom on the Davis campus.** The forums have been scheduled during our annual POC week Celebration and the committee would like to invite you and encourage you to attend some of the events scheduled for that week. We have attached the 2015 POC Week calendar of events to assist you in this process.

The final edited version of the POC statement will be publicly reaffirmed by the entire campus community at a ceremony planned for later this Spring. The adoption of the revised POC statement is a campus community event and we hope you will actively participate in this process.

Thank you.

Rahim Reed  
Associate Executive Vice Chancellor  
Campus Community Relations

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Attachments

## Reaffirmation Planning Committee

### Principles of Community final draft with edits (in bold)

**Prologue:** UC Davis is a diverse community comprised of individuals having many perspectives and abilities, of many faiths, cultures, ethnicities, races, and orientations. We come from a multitude of backgrounds and experiences, with distinct needs and goals. We recognize that to create an inclusive and intellectually vibrant community, we must understand and value both our individual differences and our common ground. The UC Davis Principles of Community is an **aspirational statement** that embodies this commitment, and reflects the ideals we are seeking to uphold.

### Principles of Community

The University of California, Davis, is first and foremost an institution of learning, teaching and **research that reflects** and is committed to serving the needs of a **global society comprising all people and a multiplicity of identities**. The university expects that every member of our community acknowledge, value, and practice the following guiding principles:

- We affirm the dignity inherent in all of us, and we strive to maintain a climate of **equity** and justice **demonstrated by respect for each other**. We acknowledge that our society carries within it historical and deep-rooted **injustices** and biases, and therefore we endeavor to foster mutual understanding and respect among the many parts of our whole.
- We affirm the right of freedom of expression within our community, and also affirm our commitment to **non-violent exchange** and the highest standards of **conduct** and decency toward all. We promote open expression of our individuality and our diversity within the bounds of courtesy, sensitivity and respect. **We further recognize the right of every individual to think, speak, express and debate any idea** limited only by university regulations governing time, place and manner.
- We confront and reject all manifestations of discrimination, including those based on race, ethnicity, gender and **gender expression**, age, disability, **nationality**, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, **socio-economic class** or status within or outside the university, or any of the other differences among people which have been excuses for misunderstanding, dissension or hatred. We recognize and cherish the richness contributed to our lives by our diversity. We take pride in our various achievements, and we celebrate our differences.
- We recognize that each of us has an obligation to the **UC Davis community** of which we have chosen to be a part, and we will strive to build a **climate and culture based on mutual respect and caring**.

## Old Version of POC

### PRINCIPLES OF COMMUNITY

The University of California, Davis, is first and foremost an institution of learning and teaching, committed to serving the needs of society. Our campus community reflects and is a part of a society comprising all races, creeds and social circumstances. The successful conduct of the university's affairs requires that every member of the university community acknowledge and practice the following basic principles:

We affirm the inherent dignity in all of us, and we strive to maintain a climate of justice marked by respect for each other. We acknowledge that our society carries within it historical and deep-rooted misunderstandings and biases, and therefore we will endeavor to foster mutual understanding among the many parts of our whole.

We affirm the right of freedom of expression within our community and affirm our commitment to the highest standards of civility and decency towards all. We recognize the right of every individual to think and speak as dictated by personal belief, to express any idea, and to disagree with or counter another's point of view, limited only by university regulations governing time, place and manner. We promote open expression of our individuality and our diversity within the bounds of courtesy, sensitivity and respect.

We confront and reject all manifestations of discrimination, including those based on race, ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs, status within or outside the university, or any of the other differences among people which have been excuses for misunderstanding, dissension or hatred. We recognize and cherish the richness contributed to our lives by our diversity. We take pride in our various achievements, and we celebrate our differences.

We recognize that each of us has an obligation to the community of which we have chosen to be a part. We will strive to build a true community of spirit and purpose based on mutual respect and caring.