



Davis Division Academic Senate

Request for Consultation Responses

Presidential Policy on International Activities

November 8, 2016

The Office of the President invites comments on a proposed International Activities Policy. The Policy is new and supersedes the [2005 Guidelines for the Establishment of Foreign Affiliate Organizations and Foreign Operations](#). The Policy sets forth the underlying principles that should govern activities conducted by UC faculty, students, and staff at foreign sites and in furtherance of UC's global engagement. It also outlines the issues to consider when engaging in such activities and the approval authority levels for international activity proposals.

Academic Freedom & Responsibility

November 3, 2016 9:40 AM

Response continued on next page.

November 3, 2016

RFC: Presidential Policy on International Activities

The committee on Academic Freedom and Responsibility agrees with the majority of the draft policy on international activities. Under section III item E2, Political Activity, the committee would like clarification regarding faculty actively researching the methods of, or doing fieldwork with a group, in the US or abroad, that is engaged in electoral politics directly or indirectly. The committee feels this should be permitted.

Faculty Welfare

November 4, 2016 4:41 PM

Response continued on next page.

November 4, 2016

RFC: Presidential Policy on International Activities

The Faculty Welfare Committee (FWC) has reviewed the draft Presidential Policy on International Activities.

FWC did not find open issues related Faculty Welfare in the draft policy, and has no objections to the draft policy.

FEC: College of Letters and Science

November 8, 2016 1:15 PM

During our November 7th L & S FEC meeting we discussed the Propose Presidential Policy on International Activities.

In Section 3 Part iii, faculty expressed concern about the very wide scope of what counted as "international activities" which would require approval from an **Executive Officer** (page 12 of 22):

"These activities are part of the course and scope of the employment, education, and training of faculty, students, and staff, and include: collaborations between faculty and peers overseas; attendance at and participation in meetings and conferences; cooperative study programs; student exchanges; training development programs; faculty research and fieldwork; undergraduate and graduate student research and fieldwork; artistic, cultural, and scholarly exchanges; MOUs; and activities subject to binding legal agreements that are not within the approval purview of the UC Provost or Regents."

We advise against using a very broad interpretation of "international activities." Faculty expressed that either they and/or their colleagues regularly attend international conferences and communicated with international colleagues, and they would not want to have to repeatedly ask for approval to do so. Faculty do not want to either be in constant violation or constantly needing approval for more mundane international activities as this could delay timely communications and scholarship.

It would be helpful if the document included more specific criteria for when approval is required as well as explained why this approval is needed.

It was further unclear when a formal risk assessment is required. Faculty also wondered whether one consequence of filing a risk assessment was to make the faculty member liable for the risk in engaging in international activities.

It was also unclear whether the paperwork needed for approval to travel to domestic conferences would be the same or different from paperwork needed for approval to travel to conferences outside of the United States since the latter is a type of "international activity."

Best,

Kristin H. Lagattuta

International Education

November 1, 2016 8:30 AM

Response continued on next page.

UC DAVIS: ACADEMIC SENATE
COMMITTEE ON INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION

October 31, 2016

RFC: Presidential Policy on International Activities

The committee on International Education reviewed the draft Presidential Policy on International Activities and has no comments at this time.

Research

November 17, 2016 8:14 AM

COR reviewed the proposed Presidential Policy on International Activities. The committee feels that the policy provides excellent and improved guidelines and hopes that it is advertised and easily accessible once finalized.