Dear Colleagues,

As mentioned yesterday, I write to provide you an update on strike-related actions taken by the Executive Council of the Davis Division of the Academic Senate and to share the Davis Division’s new Strike Flexibilities and Guidance webpage. This webpage will be limited to questions of academic policy under Davis Division authority. Academic Affairs will continue to maintain its Strike Updates and Support webpage, which covers information under administrative authority.

Davis Division leadership heard from many students, faculty, and administrators about the impact of the strike on the delivery of instruction. In response, Executive Council voted to extend the Passed/Not Passed (P/NP) and Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory (S/U) deadlines to the last day of instruction for fall quarter, December 2. We are in the process of notifying students of the deadline extension.

We have also received questions about final exams. In response, we posted guidance on the Davis Division’s strike webpage, which provides options for adjusting final exams within existing policy boundaries. Our hope is that you will have the information you need should you choose to make adjustments for pedagogical or logistical reasons.

In addition, there was mention in the recent Systemwide Senate communication about some campuses extending their deadlines for grade submissions. I conferred with the Registrar on this possibility. Given tight timelines for quarterly processing—which could adversely impact our students if delayed—we agreed that it is in our campus’s best interest to maintain normal grade submission deadlines. You will soon begin receiving the normal grade submission notification emails from the Registrar’s Office, which may contain additional information specific to this quarter.

I recognize that some of the strike guidance we have received has been ambiguous or vague. I too wish the guidance could be more concrete, but I understand that we are dealing with some questions of legal uncertainty. Nevertheless, I confer daily with campus administration and Systemwide Senate leadership, and will continue to share information with you as available.

Barring any significant operational changes on campus, I do not anticipate that the Davis Division will take further action in fall quarter 2022 on policies under our authority. I am acutely aware, though, that if the strike were to continue into winter quarter 2023, then we may need to revisit some instructional policies.

I welcome any feedback you may have.

Take care,
Ahmet
Ahmet Palazoglu
Chair, Davis Division of the Academic Senate
Distinguished Professor of Chemical Engineering
University of California, Davis