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Susan Ebeler, Chair, Undergraduate Associate Deans, CA&ES  
JT Eden, Internal Vice President, ASUCD  
Radhika Gawde, President, ASUCD  
Pablo Reguerin, Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs  
Maahum Shahab, Undergraduate Student Advisor to the Chancellor  
Clare Shinnerl, Vice Chancellor, Finance, Administration, and Operations  
Whitney Smith, Director, Ceremonies and Special Events  
Mark Winey, Dean, College of Biological Sciences

Re: Spring 2023 Undergraduate Commencement Advisory Committee

Dear Colleagues,

Commencement is a joyous and memorable occasion that marks a major milestone for students. The university's commencement ceremonies are an important way UC Davis honors and celebrates this milestone with students, their families and friends. As you know, our June 2022 commencement ceremonies did not go as planned and a good portion of our graduating class did not get to celebrate properly. This was disappointing for everyone in our campus community. We can and must do better in the future.

I'm pleased to invite you to serve on the newly formed Spring 2023 Undergraduate Commencement Advisory Committee. The advisory committee is charged with considering the best location and structure for UC Davis' 2023 undergraduate commencement ceremonies. The committee is asked to discuss and provide advice and ideas to help inform our decisions. For example, what are the advantages and disadvantages of hosting the ceremonies in Davis or Sacramento? What type of ceremony will best serve undergraduates from the university's four undergraduate colleges? These are some of the questions on which you will be asked to discuss and provide input.

I know you have ideas, concerns and solutions to share, and I value your input. Your contributions to this important effort will help shape our Spring 2023 commencement ceremonies and ensure they are enjoyable and memorable for students and their families.

I have asked Karl Engelbach, associate chancellor and chief of staff, to convene the advisory committee, with a goal of making preliminary recommendations by early November 2022. Staff will be reaching out to you soon to schedule the first meeting. Thank you in advance for your participation in this important undertaking.

Best regards,

Gary S. May  
Chancellor

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