



GARY S. MAY
Chancellor

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR
ONE SHIELDS AVENUE
DAVIS, CALIFORNIA 95616-8558
TELEPHONE: (530) 752-2065

June 11, 2020

Kevin Johnson, Dean, School of Law (Task Force Co-chair)
Renetta Tull, Vice Chancellor, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Task Force Co-chair)
Charron Andrus, 2020-21 UC Davis Health African American Faculty and Staff Association Chair
Sheri Atkinson, Associate Vice Chancellor, Student Affairs
Molly Bechtel, 2020-21 Staff Assembly Chair, Davis Chapter
Allison Brashear, Dean, School of Medicine
Milagros Copara, 2020-21 Co-chair, Chancellor's Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual Issues
Hla Elkhatib, 2020-21 Undergraduate Student Advisor to the Chancellor
Joe Farrow, Chief of Police
Darryl Goss, UC Davis Foundation Board Vice Chair
Roxanne Grijalva, 2020-21 Latinx Staff and Faculty Association Chair
Ari Kelman, Interim Dean, College of Letters and Sciences
Vivian Khem, 2020-21 Staff Assembly Chair, Sacramento Chapter
Kyle Krueger, 2020-21 ASUCD President
Christine Lovely, Chief Human Resource Officer
Toby Marsh, Chief Nursing and Patient Care Services Officer
Diana Martinez, 2020-21 Undergraduate Student Advisor to the Chancellor
Sarah Meredith, Director, Center for Advocacy, Resources, and Education
Jonathan Minnick, 2020-21 Graduate Student Association President
Gillian Moise, 2020-21 Graduate Student Assistant to the Dean and Chancellor
Kristian Marie L Ocampo, 2020-21 Asian Pacific American Systemwide Alliance Chair
O. Adewale (Wale) Osipitan, 2020-21 Postdoctoral Scholars Association Chair
Pamela Pretell, 2020-21 Native American Faculty and Staff Association Chair
Kelly Ratliff, Vice Chancellor, Finance, Operations and Administration
Zeljka Smit-McBride, 2020-21 Academic Federation Chair
Michael Sweeney, Chief Campus Counsel
Paul David Terry, 2020-21 Co-chair, Chancellor's Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, and Asexual Issues
Danica Tisdale Fisher, 2020-21 UC Davis African American Faculty and Staff Association Chair
Hendry Ton, Associate Vice Chancellor, Diversity and Inclusion
Richard Tucker, 2020-21 Academic Senate Chair
Incoming Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor

Re: Next Generation Reforms to Advance Campus Safety Charge Letter

Dear Colleagues:

Our nation is struggling with the repercussions of racism that were built into our fabric from its beginnings. Recent events have rallied people from all walks of life to call for real change in how we re-create our society into one of true belonging and equality. As I've said in recent statements, I believe higher education can play a unique role in shaping an inclusive community where people of all backgrounds and experiences feel valued, seen and heard.

In our recent history here at UC Davis, before many of us arrived, the university's police department went through a major overhaul. In 2014, UC Davis instituted a Police Accountability Board, an independent board composed of students, staff, and faculty from both the Davis and Sacramento campuses. It's the only one of its kind in the UC system and one of very few at other universities across the nation. The department created a student cadet academy to train diverse candidates for a career in law enforcement. Many of those students are now serving our campus community. The department has focused on mental health and crisis training for its officers. Finally, the department is meeting all 176 accreditation requirements, which will be completed by fall 2020, for the highest professional standards under the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

However, as law enforcement departments across the country are scrutinized—and justly so—for how they respond to and interact with others, I'm calling on our community to come together and examine what we can do to improve our community policing.

I write today to invite you to serve on a newly formed Task Force called Next Generation Reforms to Advance Campus Safety. The task force is charged with considering how safety is best achieved on both the Davis and Sacramento campuses.

The Task Force is asked to discuss and assess what a police department should look like for an educational environment and a health-focused one. What are its values and how should it reflect those values? Whom does it serve? How does it represent those it does serve and how should it bridge gaps? How should its members interact with the community? How should its members and the department as a whole be accountable to the community? What practices or philosophies are worth preserving? If we start from scratch, what does that look like?

These are examples of questions or issues to address, and not a pre-determined list. I know you have ideas, concerns and solutions to bring to the table, and I value your input.

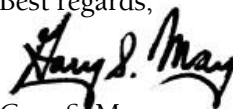
I ask the task force to convene and facilitate discussions with students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members to solicit their thoughts and perspectives. I encourage the Task Force to seek out members of our community who represent the most critical views of policing, as well as those who have positive associations. We must hear from people with a variety of opinions to develop common ground on which to build.

I recognize this is not an easy task—it is one that requires thoughtfulness and care. With that in mind, I ask that the task force deliver its recommendations to me by December 15, 2020, so we can begin to consider and implement recommendations within the 2020-21 academic year.

I have asked Renetta Tull, Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and Kevin Johnson, Dean of the School of Law, to serve as co-chairs of the Task Force, and they have both graciously agreed to do so.

I believe our university is evolving to better reflect the needs of our community. It's imperative that we approach the safety and wellbeing of all who live, study and work at UC Davis as a key element to that evolution.

Best regards,



Gary S. May
Chancellor

/lkcb

c: Council of Deans and Vice Chancellors