

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, ACADEMIC SENATE

BERKELEY • DAVIS • IRVINE • LOS ANGELES • MERCED • RIVERSIDE • SAN DIEGO • SAN FRANCISCO



SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

Henry C. Powell
Telephone: (510) 987-9711
Fax: (510) 763-0309
Email: henry.powell@ucop.edu

*Chair of the Assembly and the Academic Council
Faculty Representative to the Board of Regents
University of California
1111 Franklin Street, 12th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200*

January 12, 2010

MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE

Dear Senate Member:

Over the last few months, we have heard from faculty serving on UC system-wide committees and as Chairs and Vice Chairs of the divisions, as well as other senate members who have called for more effective advocacy on behalf of UC. We have also met with staff in government relations and in communications to identify ways to garner greater public support for public higher education during a critical time, at the same time that we are hearing increasing calls for mass demonstrations - ranging from protest marches to mass mailing campaigns. In this context, our conversations have persuaded us that we have a unique opportunity to leverage personal contacts in Sacramento by enabling legislators and other policymakers to discuss higher education with people they already know and trust.

Our colleagues in governmental relations have asked us to help identify faculty who have close relationships with state policymakers and are willing to help the University deliver important advocacy messages at critical junctures in the legislative and budget process. Each campus is currently in the process of bringing together key UC stakeholders – Regents, alumni, faculty, staff, students, and business and community leaders – with their elected representatives to convey the message that the state must not allow any further erosion of funding to UC and must begin to reinvest in public higher education. The first set of meetings took place in the district offices of State Legislators during the fall recess, and follow-up meetings are planned to take place in the State Capitol in early 2010. We would like to harness widespread concern about the upcoming budget year, to make sure that the voices of faculty are heard by legislators and the public in the weeks between release of the Governor's budget in January and finalization of a new state budget in June.

Specifically, we would like to identify faculty who have personal relationships with legislators or other policy makers and who are ready to participate in direct advocacy with those individuals. We invite faculty who are ready to participate in direct advocacy efforts to share information about the policymakers you know with the systemwide Senate office by emailing Todd Giedt (todd.giedt@ucop.edu), providing your contact information and the name(s) of any legislator(s) or state government officials whom you are willing to contact when the University has a specific message to convey. We are well aware that you have many commitments that demand your time and attention and stress that this is a voluntary effort. Your response will be held in strict confidence and will only be used to invite you to participate in efforts to provide information about the

University to one of the people you know. If you have further questions, please feel free to call or email one of us or Steve Juarez, Associate Vice President for State Government Relations, at (916) 445-9924, or steve.juarez@ucop.edu. We thank you in advance for your assistance and support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Henry C. Powell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Henry C. Powell
Chair, Universitywide Academic Senate

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel L. Simmons". The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Daniel Simmons
Vice Chair, Universitywide Academic Senate