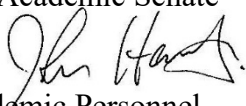




COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

February 28, 2017

To: Dylan Rodriguez
Riverside Division Academic Senate

From: John Heraty, Chair 
Committee on Academic Personnel

Re: Teresa & Byron Pollitt Endowed Chairs for Interdisciplinary Research &
Learning in Humanities and Social Sciences

At its meeting on February 22, 2017, CAP reviewed the documents for the Teresa & Byron Pollitt Endowed Chairs for Interdisciplinary Research & Learning in Humanities and Social Sciences. CAP was enthusiastic about the establishment of the three Endowed Term Chairs and voted unanimously in favor of the proposal +10-0-0. CAP believes that they will make an important contribution to enhancing both CHASS faculty research and UCR's practical and intellectual contribution to the region and its communities.

However, concern was expressed by several CAP members that the current strategic priorities listed in the proposal do not adequately represent the kinds of research and teaching that many CHASS faculty actually engage in or the contributions that they might make to such a program. The priority "New Voices and Visions – expressing and celebrating our humanity through the visual and performing arts, and nurturing voices from across the rich tapestry of society" appears to foreclose the contribution of CHASS faculty in the critical and interpretive disciplines or to demand a too extensive reframing of their actual research agendas in order to address the priority. CAP feels that it is of great importance to acknowledge in the proposal the potential contribution that the socially and culturally critical work of many CHASS faculty might make to such program.