


 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA | **Academic Senate**  
**COMMITTEE ON ACADEMIC FREEDOM**

December 22, 2016

To: Dylan Rodriguez, Chair  
Riverside Division of the Academic Senate

From: Emma Aronson, Chair   
Committee on Academic Freedom

**Re: Proposed Policy: Draft New Presidential Policy on International Activities**

The Committee on Academic Freedom was asked to review and opine on the proposed New Presidential Policy on International Activities with regard to changes that may impede academic freedom. The Committee discussed the proposed changes on December 7, 2016 and offered the following comments:

Members were of the understanding that only formal and financial collaborative contracts between the UC and Universities would be affected by this policy and that proposed changes will not add new levels of approval beyond those already in place. Rather, the policy provides flexible language to relieve the University of legal responsibility for engagement in contracts that may not have received prior approval.

To alleviate confusion, the Committee recommends that language be added to the policy to clarify the scope of international activities under consideration and state that approval by an Executive Office would be required only when a formal contract is involved. Clarification should also be added to indicate that, while individual conferences or collaborations between faculty members are not covered by this agreement, faculty are encouraged to notify their campus risk officer when they plan to travel abroad.