



Michael V. Drake, MD
President

Office of the President
1111 Franklin St.
Oakland, CA 94607

universityofcalifornia.edu

CAMPUSES

Berkeley
Davis
Irvine
UCLA
Merced
Riverside
San Diego
San Francisco
Santa Barbara
Santa Cruz

MEDICAL CENTERS

Davis
Irvine
UCLA
San Diego
San Francisco

NATIONAL LABORATORIES

Lawrence Berkeley
Lawrence Livermore
Los Alamos

October 21, 2021

ACADEMIC COUNCIL CHAIR ROBERT HORWITZ

Dear Robert:

Thank you for submitting the report and recommendation of the Academic Senate Smarter Balanced Study Group (SBSG). Please convey my appreciation to the members of the study group for their thoughtful deliberations and sound advisement. For the reasons cited in the report, I support their recommendations. Based on the earlier findings of the feasibility study, the study group recommendation, and in accordance with the Regents May 2020 directive, UC will continue to practice test-free admissions.

I also appreciate the additional, equity-minded recommendations aimed at addressing persistent opportunity gaps in UC preparation, strengthening holistic admissions processes, and improving student supports. In support of our shared goals, I am requesting that Provost and Executive Vice President Brown partner with the Academic Senate to facilitate the monitoring of admissions processes and outcomes towards the end of strengthening holistic admissions. He will also engage the appropriate departments at the Office of the President to continue to nurture strong K-12 partnerships and to expand proven practices that are foundational to quality academic preparation and UC student success.

Again, my thanks to you and to the study group for your invaluable contribution.

Sincerely,

Michael V. Drake, MD
President

cc: Academic Council Vice Chair Cochran
Provost and Executive Vice President Brown
Vice President/Vice Provost Gullatt
SBSG Co-Chair Gauvain
SBSG Co-Chair Sorapure
Chief of Staff Kao
Chief of Staff Peterson
Chief Policy Advisor McAuliffe
Executive Director Baxter