

October 3, 2018

CHAIR LAU
Academic Senate

Re: Strategic Academic Planning

Dear Chair Lau:

EVC Tromp and I are very grateful to you and our Senate colleagues for their thoughtful and extremely helpful feedback on the full draft of the Strategic Academic Plan and Implementation Playbook. The Senate input highlighted many critical details. EVC Tromp and I will need a few more weeks to fully consider everything conveyed. In the meantime, I write to acknowledge and concur with three high-level comments and to outline next steps.

First, the Senate noted that the Academic priority areas (APAs) require faculty leadership, further explanation, and clarity of near-term purpose. We agree. Over the summer, we worked with the deans, several faculty leaders, and our communications team to provide more robust descriptions about each APA. (<https://sap.ucsc.edu/apa/>) For each of the APAs, we have designated co-leaders and associate leaders, primarily chosen from key members of TAWGs. This assures interdisciplinarity and sufficient representation among those who come together, organize their respective faculties, and make cases via the deans for the annual FTE call.

Second, the format and structure of our strategic academic planning document will be rewritten into a more standard report format using complete sentences. We aim to have this complete by mid-to-late fall quarter.

Third, we agree that the design principle implementation plan needs more work that makes it appropriate for our community. We hope to achieve greater focus in the revisions, utilizing Senate feedback, and then we will look again to the Senate for further consultation and feedback, remaining open to feedback from the whole of our campus community. We will allot the rest of fall and all of winter quarter for additional feedback, seeking to incorporate that additional feedback into a final plan during spring quarter.

Sincerely,



Herbert Lee
Vice Provost for Academic Affairs

Cc: Chancellor Blumenthal
CP/EVC Tromp
Vice Chancellor Delaney
Executive Director Mednick
Special Assistant Jarvinen
Special Projects Manager Cohen