CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
EAST BAY

ACADEMIC SENATE
http://www.csueastbay.edu/senate
510-885-3671

FROM THE PROVOST AND THE SENATE CHAIR

19-20 AAA 1
19-20 BC 3
Monday, April 6, 2020

TO: The Academic Senate

FROM: Ed Inch, Provost and Michael Lee, Senate Chair

SUBJECT: 19-20 AAA 1 & 19-20 BC 3: Rapid Action Advisory (RAA) Report

PURPOSE: Action by the Academic Senate

REQUEST: That the Academic Senate accept and approve the RAA Recommendations on Spring Semester Grading and adopt them as the University's Emergency Grading Policy for Spring 2020, subject to the approval of the President, and that the Academic Senate also accept and endorse the RAA Recommendations on Final Examinations and Assessment Information for Spring 2020 and distribute these recommendations to all faculty

BACKGROUND

At the request of the Provost and the Senate Chair, as endorsed by the Academic Senate Executive Committee at its meeting of March 24, 2020, a Rapid Advisory Response team was assembled on March 26, 2020 to provide recommendations to Academic Affairs and to the Academic Senate concerning how Cal State East Bay's grade policy and practices might be modified for Spring 2020 in the light of Covid-19 challenges to students and the forced switch of all courses to an online delivery modality. The RAA was established in an effort to address rising concerns across campus, in both the faculty and the student body, that the many challenges and anxieties facing students could negatively affect student performance and, as a consequence, increase student planned and unauthorized withdrawals and lead to significant impacts on student GPA scores and progress to graduation. At the time when this RAA was being considered, across the country these issues were being addressed at other institutions by a diversity of responses ranging from university Presidential decrees to hastily constructed Senate policies. We recognized that the short-time frame within which a clear and effective policy for our campus needed to be crafted precluded the normal orderly, multi-step process in which such a policy would begin with CIC, pass through ExCom, and then move to the Academic Senate. However, we determined that a carefully chosen group, resourced by Academic Affairs to work over the Spring break, could usefully serve to provide a robust and acceptable set of recommendations, if appropriately guided by a charge from the Provost and Academic Senate Chair that captured the concerns expressed at ExCom's meeting and a

range of prior meetings between governance stakeholders. The RAA met for the first time on March 27, 2020 and four times thereafter, finalizing their recommendations on April 6, 2020 in the following two documents:

Rapid Action Advisory Committee Recommendations Spring 2020 Grading

Rapid Action Advisory Committee Recommendations Faculty Resources & Final Exam Information

Drafts of these RAA documents were presented to CIC at its meeting on April 6, 2020 and the recommendations contained within them were endorsed, as documented in information items 19-20 CIC 131 and 19-20 CIC 132.

In line with CIC's endorsement and as detailed in the request for this document, we, the Provost and Academic Chair of Cal State East Bay, request that the Academic Senate accept and approve the RAA Recommendations on Spring Semester Grading and adopt them as the University's Emergency Grading Policy for Spring 2020, subject to the approval of the President, and further, that the Academic Senate also accept and endorse the RAA Recommendations on Final Examinations and Assessment Information for Spring 2020 and distribute these recommendations to all faculty.

RAA Committee members

Angela Schneider - Registrar

Gwyan Rhabyt - CIC, Chair, CLASS (**Co-Chair RAA**)

Jeffrey Newcomb - Lecturer, ExCom, CBE

Julie Glass - ASCSU, Chair, ExCom, CSCI

Luz Calvo - Chair, CLASS

Michelle Rippy - First Gen student advocate, ExCom, CLASS (**Co-Chair RAA**)

Mitch Watnick - Assoc Dean, former Chair, former Senate Chair, APS

Paul Carpenter - COBRA, Chair, ExCom, CEAS

Siddharth Valecha - ASI VP of University Affairs