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SANTA BARBARA • SANTA CRUZ

OFFICE OF RISK SERVICES

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
1111 Franklin Avenue, 6th Floor
Oakland, California 94607-5200

February 14, 2024

CHANCELLORS
ACADEMIC COUNCIL CHAIR STEINTRAGER
LABORATORY DIRECTOR WITHERELL
ANR VICE PRESIDENT HUMISTON

Re: Systemwide Review of Proposed Recission of Presidential Policy on Hoverboards

Dear Colleagues:

Enclosed for systemwide review is a proposed recission of the Presidential Policy on Hoverboards.

The UC Hoverboard Policy was envisioned as a temporary, emergency policy to address fire risks created by individuals charging hoverboard batteries in or on UC properties. Since the Policy became effective in 2016, numerous other lithium ion-powered micro-mobility devices have become popular and are in use at UC locations. These include but are not limited to e-bikes, scooters, skateboards, and hoverboards.

With this proliferation of battery-operated micro-mobility devices, the California Office of the State Fire Marshal released a guidance document (23-003) in April of 2023 related to the storage and charging of these types of devices. In addition to this document, the UC Council of Campus Fire Marshals released guidance in August of 2023 specific to this type of equipment and its use at UC locations. Lastly, California Assembly Bill 712 was signed into law in July of 2023 and requires landlords to allow tenants to recharge micro-mobility devices in their units. UC Legal has determined this Assembly Bill does apply to UC housing.

Given these more current and comprehensive documents, in addition to more prescriptive Underwriter's Laboratories (UL) testing and listing for the equipment and batteries, the emergency Presidential Policy on Hoverboards should be rescinded. With technology evolving rapidly, the University is better served by relying on outside standard-setting bodies, such as UL, and best practice guidance from the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

Policy stakeholders, including subject matter experts in Fire & Life Safety, Environmental Health & Safety, Risk Management, and Student Housing were advised of this proposal and provided unanimous support to rescind the Presidential Policy on Hoverboards.

Systemwide Review

Systemwide review is a public review distributed to the Chancellors, the Chair of the Academic Council, the Director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and the Vice President of Agriculture and Natural Resources requesting that they inform the general University community, especially affected employees, about policy proposals. Systemwide review for this policy recission also includes a 30-day full Senate review.

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Employees should be afforded the opportunity to review and comment on the draft policy. Attached is a Model Communication which may be used to inform non-exclusively represented employees about these proposals. The Labor Relations Office at the Office of the President is responsible for informing the bargaining units representing union membership about policy proposals.

We would appreciate receiving your comments no later than **Friday, March 15, 2024**. Please submit your comments to Ken Smith ehs@ucop.edu. If you have any questions, please contact Ken Smith at ehs@ucop.edu or (510)882-3499.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Kevin Confetti, Risk Services
Associate Vice President & Chief Risk Officer

Enclosures:

- 1) Presidential Policy on Hoverboards for Recission
- 2) Model Communication

cc: President Drake
Provost and Executive Vice President Newman
Executive Vice Chancellors/Provosts
Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Nava
Executive Vice President Rubin
Senior Vice President Bustamante
Vice President and Vice Provost Gullatt
Vice Provost Haynes
Vice President Lloyd
Vice President Maldonado
Vice Provosts/Vice Chancellors of Academic Affairs/Personnel
Associate Vice Provost Lee
Associate Vice President Matella
Deputy General Counsel Woodall
Assistant Vice Provosts/Vice Chancellors for Academic Personnel
Deputy Chief HR Officer and Chief of Staff Henderson
Executive Director Lin
Chief of Staff Beechem
Chief of Staff Kao
Chief of Staff Levintov
Chief Policy Advisor McAuliffe
Director Anders
Director Chin
Director Teaford
Director Weston-Dawkes
Associate Director Dicaprio

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Associate Director Garcia
Associate Director Soria
Associate Director Woolston
Associate Director Young
Assistant Director LaBriola
Manager Crosson
Policy Analyst Durrin
Administrative Officer Babbitt
Policy Advisory Committee