Mr. Mac Taylor, Legislative Analyst  
Executive Office  
925 L Street, Suite 1000  
Sacramento CA  95814

Dear Mr. Taylor:

I am pleased to advise you that, by copy of this letter, I am transmitting the report *University of California, Instruction and Research Space Summary and Analysis, 2011-16 Capital Improvement Program* to Mr. Mark Whitaker, of the Legislative Analyst’s Office, and to Ms. Theresa Gunn, Department of Finance.

This report responds to the Legislative request set forth in the Education Code as follows:

67502. (a) On or before November 1 of each year, the Regents of the University of California are requested to provide to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee and the Department of Finance a summary of all instructional and research space in the university system. The summary shall consist of campus-by-campus data indicating existing space available to each department of instruction and research, including a seven-year projection of space needs for departments of instruction and research. The data shall include, but not be limited to, classrooms, upper and lower-division class laboratories, teaching assistant offices, and faculty offices. The summary shall correlate assignable square foot capacities to full-time-equivalent student enrollments and faculty positions for both existing space and projected space needs.

The space analysis is based on space planning guidelines developed by the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) in 1990 to replace the 1955 CCHE/Restudy standards. The methodology used by the University in calculating the guidelines for classroom and teaching laboratory space relies on the legislated utilization standards, an average of 35 hours per week for classroom stations and 20 hours per week for teaching laboratory stations as defined by action of the legislature in 1970 and 1973.

For two years (2006-07 and 2007-08), the University experienced far more rapid enrollment growth than projected, with the result that we have enrolled more students than the number for which we are funded. Due to the current fiscal crisis, the 2008-09 through 2010-11 State budgets provided very limited resources for enrollment growth. As a result, the University is enrolling 11,570 more California FTE students than the State-funded enrollment target in 2007-08, the last year for which regular enrollment-growth funding was provided.

For 2009-10, the University took action to slow enrollment growth by reducing the size of the incoming freshman class while accepting additional transfers from the California Community Colleges. For 2010-11, the University implemented a further reduction in the freshman class (and increased transfers) to bring total enrollment to a level more consistent with available resources. For capital planning purposes, assumed enrollments at all the general campuses (except the newest, Merced) have been reduced to 2007-08 levels for the next five years. Enrollment at Merced will continue to expand.
Future space for classrooms and teaching laboratories, however, is forecast not from a base of budgeted enrollments but from actual recorded class schedules. These data, which include the University’s substantial over-enrollment, cannot be reasonably forecast and are held constant at current levels in this report. The result is a temporary inconsistency between classroom and teaching laboratory capacity and the forecast of office and research area. As actual enrollments drop in future years to match budgeted levels, these two forecasts will gradually move into alignment in future reports.

To make efficient use of existing facilities in accommodating anticipated enrollments, the University has agreed with the Governor and Legislature to expand summer and qualifying off-campus enrollments to the maximum extent feasible. The impact of year-round operations on instruction and research space requirements is reflected directly in the included projection of workload data. This analysis continues to assume that State-funded summer and off-campus enrollments will equal 40 percent of the average three-quarter enrollment, consistent with Supplemental Report Language adopted previously.

As with previous submittals, we are providing complete copies of the space analysis tables to Mr. Whitaker in your office and to the Department of Finance for use in their analysis of the University’s capital program. If you or members of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee wish a copy of the report, please let me know.

Sincerely,

Patrick J. Lenz
Vice President for Budget and Capital Resources

Attachments

cc: Senator Denise Ducheny,
    Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee
Ms. Theresa Gunn, Department of Finance
    Attn: Mr. Stan Huiga (with attachments)
Associate Vice President Steve Juarez, State Governmental Relations
Ms. Diane Boyer-Vine, Legislative Counsel
Mr. Steve Boilard, Legislative Analyst’s Office
Mr. Mark Whitaker, Legislative Analyst’s Office (with attachments)
Mr. Kevin Woolfork, California Postsecondary Education Commission (with attachments)
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bcc:
Associate Vice President Obley
Associate Vice President Wylie
Director Romero
Senior Administrative Analyst Hanchock (with attachments)
Senior Educational Facilities Planner Ross (with attachments)
Analyst Olmos
State Capital Program Files (with attachments)