



OFFICE OF THE PROVOST AND  
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
1111 Franklin Street, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Oakland, California 94607-5200

July 14, 2020

## EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLORS AND PROVOSTS

Dear Colleagues:

The University of California created UCDC so its students could live, learn, and intern in the nation's capital. The Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted our ability to fulfill this mission. The combination of cross-country travel, high-density housing, and experiential learning that facilitates exploration and interaction runs contrary to what public health experts recommend: physical distancing. Most critically, UCDC does not have a student health clinic or campus resources for testing, tracing, and isolation.

For these reasons, I have determined that Covid-19 health-related risks necessitates the UCDC program be offered remotely throughout the 2020-21 academic year.

In addition to our discussions in June, I have also consulted with UCDC's Executive Director Helen Shapiro, UCDC staff, the UCDC Governing Council, and the UCDC Academic Advisory Committee, as well as Vice Provost Susan Carlson. Those discussions have led to this decision.

UCDC is already offering a remote program for the fall and is actively working with local employers to expand remote internship opportunities. Staff will provide as much of the UCDC experience virtually as possible, including alumni mentorships, professional development workshops, and speaker forums.

As we were making this decision, American University approached UCDC about housing some of its students in the UC Washington Center. Those students would have access to their university's health care resources, which we could not provide to our own students. We anticipate that those revenues will help defray UCDC losses so that it can continue to operate now and in the future.

System-wide support for the program long term remains strong and I look forward to resuming the residential program as soon as possible. In the coming weeks, UCDC will be providing you with updates about its remote programming.

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Please contact me, Executive Director Shapiro, or Vice Provost Carlson with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael T. Brown". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "B".

Michael T. Brown, Ph.D.  
Provost and  
Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

cc: Vice Provost Carlson  
Executive Director Shapiro  
Chief of Staff Peterson