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Interim Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Carol Christ, Chair  
Associate Vice Chancellor for Real Estate Rajiv Parikh  
Associate Vice Chancellor for RSSP Steve Sutton  
Incoming Vice Provost for the Faculty Ben Hermalin  
Dean of the Graduate Division Fiona Doyle  
Professor Richard Stanton

Dear Colleagues,

I write to thank you for agreeing to serve on a *Task Force to Create a Master Housing Plan* for the Berkeley campus. The need to plan for affordable, convenient housing has become increasingly critical as Berkeley addresses planning for undergraduate enrollment growth and strives to remain competitive in attracting top faculty, postdoctoral scholars, and graduate students. The current campus budget situation, coupled with the fact that the campus is at its debt capacity, adds a significant challenge to addressing this issue. I ask your help in developing a plan that considers these realities and identifies options that will enable the campus to address current and emerging housing needs. As there is some urgency to completion of this work, I ask that you provide the Master Housing Plan by no later than November 23, 2016 – and earlier if possible.

The specific charges for task force include:

1. Enumerate and evaluate potential sites for new development (both on and near campus as well as other owned real estate), as well as needs around replacing or renovating existing housing stocks.
2. Consider the impact on campus and the city of Berkeley of developing certain sites, such as parking structures, as housing – as well as options for mitigating potentially adverse effects.
3. Develop a financial model that will guide decisions about future housing development.
4. Evaluate market conditions and the LRDP as parameters for housing development.
5. Establish other criteria that should guide decision making around the development of housing.

Interim Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Carol Christ has consented to serve as chair of the Task Force. CFO Rosemarie Rae will work with the group on finance models and Vice Chancellor Cathy Koshland will be available to provide input on issues related to undergraduate education. VCAF Chief of Staff Ann Jeffrey will staff the committee.

We look forward to receiving your report and recommendations this fall.

Sincerely,

Nicholas B. Dirks

CC: Vice Chancellor Bob Lalanne  
Vice Chancellor Harry Le Grande