Intro to Office of Legal Affairs

Jamie Lopez, Senior Campus Counsel October 5, 2022



Office of Legal Affairs





Attorneys and Staff

- Interim Chief Campus Counsel: Steve Drown
- Senior Campus Counsel: Jamie Lopez
- Principal Campus Counsel, Health: Victor Ortiz
- Paralegal/Information Practices Coordinator: Kristen Erving
- Executive Assistant: Megan Johnson



Office of Legal Affairs

- The Office of Legal Affairs provides counsel and legal advice to the Chancellor and his cabinet as well as to the senior leadership at UCR. We do not represent individual faculty, staff or students.
- The Office of Legal Affairs provides legal advice and assistance on a wide range of matters affecting faculty, students and staff. Such matters include labor and employment, educational affairs, research, health affairs, technology transfer, privacy and information practices, land use, procurement, dispute resolution, compliance and regulations and policies of The Regents.



Role of Campus Counsel

- Duty to the Regents (the Institution)
- Dual Report to Chancellor and to General Counsel
- Clients include Upper Level Administrators of UCR
- Office is a resource funded by the Chancellor to the Schools and Departments within UCR and OP



What Does OLA do?

- Policy and Legal Advice
- Contract Review
- Information Practices Function
- Policy Review
- Litigation Management
- Outside Counsel Management
- Staffing of Committees
- Development of Templates & Self Help tools
- Professional, Campus and Systemwide Engagements

- Temporary Restraining Orders
- Administrative Hearings
- Hosting Legal Interns
- Claim Resolution
- Communication with outside entities
- Systemwide work
- Prevention and Support Services



You Are Not Alone!

- Resources Include:
 - Diversity and Inclusion Office
 - Locally Designated Official (LDO) / Compliance
 - Student Disability Resource Center
 - Human Resources/Affirmative Action/Academic Personnel
 - Office of Legal Affairs (Campus Counsel)
 - Ombudsperson
 - Title IX/CARE Advocate
 - Vice Provost of Administrative Resolution (VPAR)
 - Critical Student Incident Team
 - UCR Police



Learn to Issue Spot

- You don't have to act as counsel
- You don't have to act as an ombuds
- You don't have to act as HR rep, Affirmative Action Office, Chief Compliance Officer, VPAR or Chief Bottle Washer





Top Issues: Faculty

- Hiring/Promotion/Retention/Diversity
- Freedom Of Speech/Academic Freedom/Bullying
- Title IX/CANRA
- Disability Accommodation/Leaves
- Discipline
- Hostile Work Environment
- Discrimination
- Research Misconduct
- Conflict of Commitment





Top Issues: Students

- Disability Accommodation
- Free Speech/DACA/Immigration
- Title IX/CANRA
- FERPA/HIPAA



- Understanding when they are acting as a student versus an employee (CBA)
- Hostile Learning/Work Environment
- Posting/Recording IP of Faculty
- Mental Health/Behavior Issues



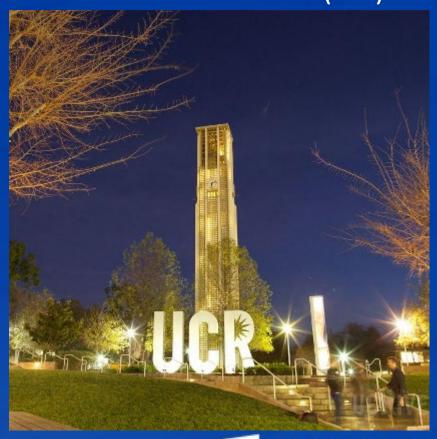
Top Issues: Administrative

Public Records Act (PRA) and Information Practices Act (IPA)

requests

Disability Accommodation

- Delegations of Authority
- Whistleblower Claims (LDO)
- Title IX/VAWA





Questions? Jamie Lopez Jamie.lopez@ucr.edu

