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**CHANCELLORS
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Seismic Safety Policy for Leased and Purchased Buildings

The enclosed *Seismic Safety Policy for Leased and Purchased Buildings* is intended to supplement the existing *University Seismic Safety Policy (1995 Policy)* and to formalize the longstanding policy and practice of evaluating all newly-leased buildings (including lease renewals) and all newly-acquired buildings (purchased or acquired by virtue of title transfer, e.g., exchange or gift). The policy addresses the types of structures that require an Independent Review, and those for which a Certificate of Applicable Code is acceptable.

Historically, the University has required that newly-acquired buildings be rated as GOOD. This requirement was based on a policy of mitigating the economic risk of repair associated with a seismic event, while providing a cushion against escalating codes and technologies that may downgrade the rating in the future and thus create a need to retrofit. The *1995 Policy*'s focus has always been on life-safety, which for campus buildings and leased facilities comports with a minimum rating of FAIR. The enclosed supplement to the *1995 Policy* addresses both needs: (i) it provides for a new alternate method for determining whether a building achieves a GOOD rating, and (ii) it allows UC to acquire buildings with a rating of FAIR as long as the approval documentation contains full disclosure of the economic risks.

The *Seismic Safety Policy for Leased and Purchased Buildings* is effective immediately and will be appended to the *University Seismic Safety Policy*. It is also available within the online University of California Facilities Manual and on the website of the Real Estate Services Group: <http://www.ucop.edu/facil/resg/seismic-safety/welcome.html>.

Should you have any questions about this policy, including its applicability in particular instances, please contact Ellie Ross at (510) 987-0981 (ellie.ross@ucop.edu) or Ingrid Schmidt at (510) 987-9006 (ingrid.schmidt@ucop.edu).

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Encl: [Seismic Safety Policy for Leased and Purchased Buildings](#)
[Decision Tree for the *Seismic Safety Policy for Leased and Purchased Buildings*](#)
[Certificate of Applicable Code Form](#)

cc: Members, President's Cabinet
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