

**THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA  
MEETING AS A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

October 15, 1998

The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at UCSF-Laurel Heights, San Francisco.

Present: Regents Atkinson, Clark, Davies, Espinoza, Gould, Johnson, Khachigian, Kozberg, Leach, Lee, Miura, Preuss, and Sayles

In attendance: Regent-designate Vining, Faculty Representative Dorr, Secretary Trivette, General Counsel Holst, Assistant Treasurer Young, Provost King, Senior Vice President Kennedy, Vice Presidents Darling, Gomes, Gurtner, Hershman, and Hopper, Chancellors Berdahl, Bishop, Cicerone, Dynes, Greenwood, Orbach, Vanderhoef, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Nietfeld

The meeting convened at 9:25 a.m. with Chairman Davies presiding.

**1. REMARKS OF PRESIDENT ATKINSON**

President Atkinson announced that Professor Walter Kohn of the Santa Barbara campus had been awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry and Professor Louis Ignarro of the Los Angeles campus had been awarded the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. He also took note of the fact that Robert Laughlin of Stanford University had received the Nobel Prize in Physics and that the work which led to this award was performed while Professor Laughlin was at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

The President also reported that Chancellor Orbach had been given the Whitney Young Award by the National Urban League for his outreach efforts and that Chancellor Cicerone had received the 1999 Bower Award and Prize for Scientific Achievement from the Franklin Institute for his work in the physical sciences.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Davies explained that the Board had been convened as a Committee of the Whole in order to permit members of the public an opportunity to address University-related matters not on the day's agenda and matters on the morning's agendas. The following persons addressed the Board concerning the items noted:

**A. *Response by UCSD to his Correspondence***

- (1) Mr. Rudy Rodriguez, Chairman of the Contra Costa Chapter of the Mexican-American Political Association, stated that students in the Theater and Dance

Department at the San Diego campus no longer have access to counselors due to staff resignations and leaves of absence. He also stated that Chancellor Dynes had failed to meet with a staff member who had raised her concerns about this matter.

- (2) Mr. Gilbert Ruiz concluded Mr. Rodriguez's remarks by reporting that Mr. Rodriguez had contacted Chancellor Dynes' office on October 14 to mention that if the Chancellor were to schedule a meeting with him, there would be no need for this presentation to the Board. Chancellor Dynes did not return the phone call. He reiterated the concern expressed by Mr. Rodriguez that UC students must have access to qualified advisors.

**B. *Qui-tam Research Funds at UCSF***

Mr. Charles Richardson, a former faculty member at the San Francisco campus, recalled that in 1994 he had filed a *qui-tam* action against the Ischemia Research and Education Foundation which resulted in \$19.2 million in research funding being returned to UCSF. Mr. Richardson reported that two months after these funds were received by the campus, he requested a portion of the recovered funds to reestablish his laboratory at the University. This request was denied. He appealed to the Regents to return funding to him in order to allow him to pursue his research career.

**C. *Novartis***

- (1) Mr. Clint Epps, a graduate student at the Berkeley campus representing a group of concerned students and faculty in the College of Natural Resources, expressed concern about the proposed \$50 million agreement between the biotechnology company Novartis and the University of California. He reported that students had not been given access to information concerning this relationship, which he believed was not appropriate because the University is a public institution.
- (2) Ms. Emily Betts, a graduate student in the College of Natural Resources, Berkeley campus, read a list of questions that have been raised by students and faculty concerning the agreement with Novartis which should be addressed before the relationship is finalized. These included whether or not corporate influence would unduly bias the direction of research and how it would affect student curriculum and programs.
- (3) Ms. Deb Rudnick, a graduate student in the College of Natural Resources, Berkeley campus, submitted a letter to the Board of Regents which had been signed by 394 students, faculty, and staff expressing their concern about the proposed agreement with Novartis. In the letter, the Regents were asked to

fully disclose the terms of the agreement in order to permit informed public discussion prior to approval.

D. ***Item 1, Joint Meeting, Committee on Finance and Committee on Grounds and Buildings: University of California 1999-2000 Budget for Current Operations***

Mr. David Friedman suggested that the University should pursue a strategy in its budget negotiations which would bring a greater share of the State's resources to the University. He believed that the University administration should not negotiate a new compact with Governor Wilson but should wait until a new governor is in office. He was opposed to the strategy of having the legislature buy out student fee increases because he believed that the University's fees should be reduced.

E. ***Item 2, Joint Meeting, Committee on Finance and Committee on Grounds and Buildings: University of California 1999-2000 Budget for Capital Improvements***

Mr. Norman Rogers presented data which suggested that the University of California does not face the increased enrollment pressures which are described in the capital budget. He asked the Regents not to pursue the projects in the capital budget that are designed to provide for increased enrollment and instead to plan for a gradual reduction.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary