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

October 14, 1999

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

Present: Regents Atkinson, Bustamante, Connerly, Davies, Hopkinson, S. Johnson, Khachigian, Lansing, Leach, Montoya, Moores, Pannor, Parsky, Preuss, Sayles, Taylor, and Vining

In attendance: Regent-designate Kohn, Faculty Representatives Coleman and Cowan, Secretary Trivette, General Counsel Holst, Assistant Treasurer Young, Provost King, Senior Vice President Kennedy, Vice Presidents Broome and Gurtner, Chancellors Bishop, Carnesale, Cicerone, Dynes, Greenwood, Tomlinson-Keasey, Vanderhoef, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Nietfeld

The meeting convened at 10:10 a.m. with Chairman Davies presiding.

Chairman Davies expressed his appreciation to Chancellor Berdahl and the Berkeley campus for their hospitality during the Regents’ visit on October 8. Eight Regents participated in the visit, which consisted of tours and presentations. He urged Regents to attend the visit to the San Diego campus on October 28. Chairman Davies recalled that the purpose of the visits is to acquaint the Regents with the campuses as well as to give the campus community an opportunity to interact with the Board. He reported that, beginning with the new two-day meeting format in 2000, three campus visits would be scheduled for those months in which the Board does not meet. Regent Davies continued that the Berkeley visit also included a presentation by the staff, which reminded those present of the important role that staff play in the well-being of the University, and a tour of the Hearst Mining Building, which is being made seismically safe.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Chairman Davies explained that the Board had been convened in order to permit members of the public an opportunity to address University-related issues and matters on the morning’s agendas. The following persons addressed the Board concerning the item noted.

Item 402, Committee on Health Services: Update on UCSF Stanford Health Care

1. Dr. Warren Gold, Professor of Medicine and Chair of the Faculty Association at UCSF, recalled that the question had been raised as to whether or not the faculty support the merger. He reported that the Faculty Association had conducted a poll of 1,500 faculty members by e-mail; thus far, one-third have responded, with 52 percent recommending that the merger be terminated and 23 percent recommending that it be continued. The poll also asked faculty about the effect of the merger on their ability to meet clinical responsibilities, to meet teaching responsibilities, and to
conduct research. One-third of those responding found that their ability to meet clinical responsibilities had worsened, while one-quarter reported this result for meeting teaching and research responsibilities. Less than five percent reported that their ability to meet their responsibilities in patient care, teaching, or research had improved since the merger. Dr. Gold urged the Regents to consider a series of private meetings with small groups of faculty in order to explore the reasons for the opinions reflected in the survey.

2. Mr. Fred Alvarez read a poem which described the history of the merger between UCSF and Stanford University.

3. Mr. Jelger Kalmijn, President of the Union of Professional and Technical Employees, recalled that two years ago UPTE had made a presentation to the Regents showing that the San Francisco campus was in better financial shape that the other four medical centers. That is no longer the case. He urged that the merger be dissolved.

4. Ms. Karen McLeod, President of the UCSF chapter of UPTE, listed some of the effects of the merger on UCSF and its mission, including the closing of the outpatient pharmacy, the end of outpatient physical therapy, the proposed closure of Mt. Zion, and the closure of the storehouse and the laundry. She urged the Regents to work with the staff to seek improvements in national healthcare policy.

5. Ms. Mary Higgins stated that The Hunter Group was being paid $400,000 per month while the merged entity continues to lose large amounts of money. She suggested that it was Stanford’s intention to keep any reserves while UCSF goes further into the red. She also spoke against the action taken at the July meeting to reduce the number of Regents meetings from nine to six.

6. Dr. Reuven Jaffe urged the Regents to maintain the world-class standing of the San Francisco campus and to keep Mt. Zion Hospital open in the urban community which it serves.

7. Mr. Steve Kwan urged the Regents to make a courageous decision and to dissolve the merger, regardless of the expense.

8. Mr. Richard Hansen provided a copy of an editorial which had appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle entitled “The Folly of Closing ERs.”

9. Ms. Margaret Wallhegen, Associate Professor of Nursing at UCSF, explained that the role of the School of Nursing is to provide an excellent education for nurses and doctoral scholars as well as perform research that contributes to the scientific base of nursing practice. To accomplish these goals, the school needs access to clinical sites and research opportunities. The merger was intended to strengthen the campus’ ability to achieve its academic mission. Professor Wallhegen reported the merger had enabled the school to improve in some ways, but it has also brought many
10. Ms. Marylin Dodd, Acting Dean of the School of Nursing, reported that the school had found positive results from the merger. For example, the nursing leadership at each of the four hospitals had initiated communications. In addition, USHC nursing needs were recognized by the School of Nursing, and the size of the master’s entry program in nursing has been doubled through a scholarship funded by USHC.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary