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

July 15, 1999

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

Present: Regents Connerly, Davies, Hopkinson, O. Johnson, S. Johnson, Khachigian, Kozberg, Lansing, Leach, Lee, Montoya, Pannor, Preuss, Taylor, and Vining

In attendance: Regent-designate Kohn, Faculty Representatives Coleman and Dorr, Secretary Trivette, General Counsel Holst, Assistant Treasurer Young, Provost King, Senior Vice President Kennedy, Vice Presidents Broome, Darling, Gomes, Gurtner, and Hershman, Chancellors Berdahl, Bishop, Carnesale, Cicerone, Dynes, Greenwood, Orbach, Vanderhoef, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Bryan

The meeting convened at 9:10 a.m. with Chairman Davies presiding.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

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 matters on the morning’s agendas. The following people addressed the Committee concerning the items noted:

1. Committee on Grounds and Buildings, item 101E: Certification of Environmental Impact Report and Approval of Design, Core West Parking Structure, Santa Cruz Campus

   A. Ms. Mardi Wormhoudt, County Supervisor, Santa Cruz County, believed that the parking project is not in keeping with the residential nature of the Santa Cruz campus and that the funds being used could be spent best on developing alternative transportation programs.

   B. Ms. Katherine Beiers, Mayor, City of Santa Cruz, noted that the City had outlined deficiencies in the EIR for the project. She stated that the Santa Cruz City Council has requested unanimously that the University not proceed with the parking garage.

   C. Mr. Richard Stover, a Research Astronomer at Lick Observatory, identified himself as one who would be using the new parking structure. He noted that the campus LRDP provides guidance on parking planning that has been ignored. He advocated reopening the planning process for this project to make it more inclusive.
D. Ms. De Clark, a UC Santa Cruz employee who works in the area intended to be served by the parking structure, noted that its construction would be contradictory to the recommendations of a transit consultant hired by the University who advocated moving parking to campus entry points. She believed the campus should aggressively promote alternative transportation.

E. Ms. Debbie Bulger, a Santa Cruz resident, delivered petitions with 1,500 signatures asking that action on the parking garage be delayed and alternatives be pursued. She noted that gridlock is already apparent on the west side of Santa Cruz.

F. Mr. Peter Beckmann, Chairman of the Santa Cruz City Transportation Commission, commented that commute traffic is extremely congested. He believed that the parking garage will cause further deterioration of the quality of neighborhood streets and will create resentment against the University.

G. Mr. George Brown, Chairman of the Physics Department, UCSC, represented the 170 signatories to a petition on behalf of the parking structure. He reported that recent losses of parking on the campus because of construction and enrollment growth cannot be addressed adequately by alternative transit options. Although his group supports the development of alternative transportation, it also supports construction of the garage.

2. Committee on Finance, Item 501B, Proposed Student-Sponsored Recruitment and Retention Centers Fee, Berkeley Campus, Item 501C, Proposed Student-Sponsored Increases in Graduate Student Association Fee, Riverside Campus, Item 501D, Approval of Student-Sponsored Increases in Student Fees, Santa Barbara Campus:

A. Ms. Wynne Graser, UC Council on Student Fees, reported that as a consequence of student fees having been frozen and rolled back during the past six years, numerous campus fees have been instituted that require students to pay for services, materials, and facilities that are core and fundamental to living in a campus community and completing a degree. She suggested that these fees be kept to a minimum.

B. Ms. Kirti Sirvahavasa, a UCSA representative, advocated access for all students and opposed salary increases for Chancellors and increases in graduate tuition fees.

3. Committee on Oversight of the Department of Energy Laboratories, item 202, Update on the Department of Energy Laboratories:

A. Ms. Sally Light, Tri-Valley Cares, which supports the conversion of the DOE laboratories from weapons to environmental work, expressed concern about the current reorganization of the Department of Energy in light of recent security
breaches. She believed that the laboratories need more accountability, more scrutiny, and more oversight. Her group fears that increased secrecy might impinge on any efforts at conversion.

B. Ms. Jackie Cabasso, Executive Director, Western States Legal Foundation, believed that the alleged security crisis at the DOE laboratories that has led to current proposals to reorganize the Department of Energy and make defense programs into a semi-autonomous agency is being used by the laboratories as an excuse to resist any attempts to constrain nuclear weapons research and development. She believed that the University should not countenance the ongoing development of weapons of mass destruction in its name.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary