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

September 16, 1999

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

Present: Regents Atkinson, Bagley, Bustamante, O. Johnson, S. Johnson, Khachigian, Kozberg, Leach, Lee, Montoya, Moores, Nakashima, Pannor, Parsky, Preuss, Sayles, Taylor, and Vining

In attendance: Regents-designate Kohn and Miura, Faculty Representatives Coleman and Cowan, Secretary Trivette, General Counsel Holst, Assistant Treasurer Young, Provost King, Senior Vice President Kennedy, Vice Presidents Darling, Gurtner, Hershman, and Hopper, Chancellors Berdahl, Bishop, Carnesale, Dynes, Greenwood, Orbach, Tomlinson-Keasey, Vanderhoef, and Yang, Executive Vice Chancellor Lillyman representing Chancellor Cicerone, Laboratory Director Browne, and Recording Secretary Bryan

The meeting convened at 2:00 p.m. with Vice Chairman Preuss presiding.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Vice Chairman Preuss 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 afternoon’s agendas. The following people addressed the Committee concerning the items noted:

1. Item 202, Committee on Oversight of the Department of Energy Laboratories – Report on DOE Laboratory Performance-Based Management: Ms. Sally Light, Tri-Valley Cares, noted that recent allegations of mismanagement of the National Ignition Facility under construction at the Livermore laboratory have generated a Congressional inquiry. She believed the Regents should investigate the issue also.

2. Item 402, Committee on Health Services – Update on UCSF Stanford Health Care and Children’s Services:

   A. Ms. Spike Kahn, representing AFSCME, noted that UCSF Stanford Health Care has contracted out 125 blue collar jobs and intends to contract out a further 50, ostensibly to save money. She reported that management intends to contract out storehouse duties to a non-union vendor that cannot deliver high quality. She noted that the new storehouse is located too far away to be of service in emergencies. She reported that since Marriott has taken over food service at the Mt. Zion and Moffitt hospitals, quality has deteriorated. She asserted that the outside vendor handling laundry for the San Francisco campus is also lax in its standards.
B. Mr. Steve Kwan, a concerned citizen, recalled that many in the community, local unions, and the media predicted that the UCSF-Stanford merger would endanger the University’s facilities. He advocated dissolving the merger.

C. Mr. Corey Menotti, AFSCME Local 829, an emergency room worker at Mt. Zion Hospital, believed it would make sense to dissolve the UCSF-Stanford merger and instead merge all the University’s medical centers together.

D. Mr. Greg Smith, a volunteer who helps Russian Jewish immigrants, reported that this group makes up about one-third of the patients at Mt. Zion Hospital. He noted that the population has special health care needs that could not be replicated elsewhere if Mt. Zion were to close.

E. Ms. Louisa Gomez, a UCSF employee, asked the Regents to sympathize with UCSF storehouse workers being laid off. She believed that the merger had an adverse effect on retaining high-quality workers and had damaged the University’s reputation.

F. Ms. Karen MacLeod urged dissolution of the merger. She stated that the merger and the recovery plan depend on a consolidation of services that is doomed to failure because of a wedge that has been driven between the administration and faculty.

G. Ms. Shirley Hansen stated that UCSF’s hospitals are public property, the purpose of which is to make available to the people of the state the best possible healthcare at the lowest possible cost. She urged dissolution of the merger.

H. Mr. Daniel Martin, UPTE, called for dissolution of the merger, the goals of which were to improve the quality of research and the academic mission. He believed the opposite has happened. He believed that the School of Pharmacy and the School of Physical Therapy will never recover from the negative effects of the merger.

I. Ms. Mary Higgins stated that it does not make sense to keep the merger going. She suggested that its individual supporters have ulterior motives for preserving it.

J. Mr. Richard Hansen, a customer of Mt. Zion Hospital, stated that his reading of the hospital’s audit report left him with the impression that information was being withheld from the auditors. He urged the Regents to examine more carefully the financial issues that threaten the hospital.

K. Ms. Selena Smith, AFSCME, a Mt. Zion Hospital employee, reported that patients there are not being cared for properly since the merger took place. She believed that the food and linen services are substandard.
L. Mr. Roman Abad, AFSCME, a Mt. Zion Hospital food service worker, reported that basic services at the hospital have deteriorated markedly since outside agencies have been contracted to run them. He noted that his department, like all at the hospital, is understaffed and overworked.

M. Mr. Don Padilla, AFSCME, believed that the medical storehouse should not be closed. Because of its location and purchasing power, it can serve the hospitals and clinics better than any alternative.

N. Ms. Jacqueline Goff, speaking on behalf of Ms. Julie Jones of California Nurses Association, noted that UC’s other medical centers are profitable. She advocated dissolving the merger, based on reports of complaints about decreases in quality and patient satisfaction.

3. Item 302, Committee on Educational Policy – *Report on UCSF Outreach to Public Schools in San Francisco and Neighboring Communities*:

A. Mr. Eli Ilano, chair of UCSA, commended the work of Chancellor Emeritus Pister in promoting outreach initiatives and stated that he believed that the money being spent on outreach is a good investment in the future. He was less convinced that spending more on the salaries of chancellors and top administrators was appropriate.

B. Mr. Kenny Burch, UCSA, commended the University’s outreach efforts but noted that insufficient funds are being spent on retention.

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Attest:

Secretary