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

Present: Regents Blum, Bodine, Connerly, Davies, Dynes, Hopkinson, Huerta, Johnson, Kozberg, Lansing, Lee, Montoya, Moores, Murray, Preuss, Sayles, and Seigler

In attendance: Regents-designate Anderson, Novack, and Ornellas, Faculty Representatives Blumenthal and Pitts, Secretary Trivette, General Counsel Holst, Provost King, Senior Vice Presidents Darling and Mullinix, Vice Presidents Doby, Drake, Gomes, and Hershman, Chancellors Berdahl, Bishop, Carnesale, Cicerone, Córdova, Greenwood, Tomlinson-Keasey, Vanderhoef, and Yang, Acting Chancellor Chandler, and Recording Secretary Nietfeld

The meeting convened at 1:08 p.m. with Chairman Moores presiding.

Chairman Moores reported that former Regent Joseph A. Moore had died. Mr. Moore served as a Regent from 1969 to 1990, including two years as Chairman. Chairman Moores expressed the Board’s condolences to Mr. Moore’s wife and family.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Moores 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. The following persons addressed the Board concerning the items noted.

Committee on Finance, Item 502: Report on the 2003-04 Governor’s Budget

A. Ms. Norah Foster of the Coalition of University Employees asked that the University provide clerical staff with equity merit increases, noting that only 16 percent of the University’s budget is provided by the State.

B. Ms. Barbara Hill reported that the library on the Berkeley campus is a government depository library which receives thousands of federal publications each year at no cost in exchange for making them available to the public. She commented on the fact that the library would be subject to an inspection by the federal government which it was not expected to pass; low staffing levels are of particular concern.

C. Ms. Stephanie Dorton, an administrative assistant at the Berkeley campus, described the financial difficulties that result from the low salary which she receives. She noted that while the contract signed by CUE contains no merit or cost-of-living
increases for the two years that it covers, the University has agreed to provide a merit increase to graduate student employees.

D. Mr. Adam Burge, a founder of Students for Out-of-State and International Diversity and a student at the Berkeley campus, drew the Committee’s attention to the recent increases in non-resident tuition at the University of California and suggested that other institutions provide better financial aid packages.

E. Ms. Jennifer Lilla, a graduate student at the San Francisco campus, suggested that the 40 percent fee increase proposed for graduate students by Governor Schwarzenegger would decimate graduate programs such as hers. She noted that the University of California Student Association had designed a survey which it hoped the Regents would take part in to help with coalition building.

F. Ms. Ann Schmileywski recalled that non-resident students had been subject to consistent fee increases over recent years, resulting in tuition that is significantly higher than when she enrolled. She now must consider transferring out of the UC system.

G. Ms. Faith Raider of AFSCME Local 3299, which represents service and patient-care workers at the University, suggested that these workers had been hit hard by budget cuts, including lay-offs and an increase in the work load.

H. Mr. Arman Rezaee, a freshman at the Berkeley campus, noted that recent fee increases had been financially stressful for his family, particularly because he does not qualify for financial aid. He believed that if a further fee increase is imposed, he would need to give up his extracurricular activities in order to work.

I. Mr. Allen Lightfeld, a freshman at the Berkeley campus, described how the University’s early academic outreach program had assisted him to become eligible to attend UC. As a member of a low-income household, he stressed his reliance on financial aid.

J. Mr. Val Fikovsky suggested that both Governor Schwarzenegger and President Dynes were willing to try new approaches to solving difficult problems and would be able to find the resources necessary for the University to continue its excellence.
Committee on Finance, Item 504: Proposed Plan Amendments of the University of California Retirement Plan, the 403(b) Plan, and the Defined Contribution Plan Concerning Benefit Eligibility and Service Credit Buyback for Vesting Purposes

Ms. Mary Higgins of the Coalition of University Employees urged the Regents to vote against the recommendation with respect to service credit buyback for vesting purposes.

University-Related Matters

Mr. Murray Morgan believed that the proposal before the Special Committee on Regents’ Procedures with respect to the coordination of materials for presentation to The Regents limited free speech.

2. REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT

President Dynes observed that Governor Schwarzenegger would face difficult choices as he wrestles with a major State budget shortfall. It is clear that the major budget cuts of the last three years have had a substantial impact on the University of California. These budget cuts have begun to chip away at the quality, accessibility, and affordability of the University, all of which are hard to regain once they are lost. They have a direct effect on the opportunities that the University is able to provide California’s students and on its contributions to the state’s economic growth. The President was hopeful that the Regents would join him in working with the Governor and the Legislature for an acceptable budget outcome. During the discussion on the Governor’s 2003-04 budget, Senior Vice President Darling will provide an update on the status of Proposition 55, the education bond measure on the March 2004 ballot. This measure is important to the future of the University of California.

President Dynes commented on the value of the extent to which undergraduates become involved in UC’s research enterprise. A large percentage of undergraduates take advantage of research experiences at the University. The opportunity to work directly with faculty connects undergraduates to the life of the scholar, enriches their understanding of what they learn in the classroom, and inspires many of them to pursue graduate study. He invited the Regents to look at the posters depicting undergraduate research projects.

The President reported briefly on his continuing inaugural tour of the UC campuses, as well as regions of California without a UC campus. He noted that people were contributing their ideas and hopes for the University and that he was getting a first-hand look at the different personalities of the campuses.

President Dynes concluded his remarks by mentioning the recent death of Clark Kerr, a giant in American higher education who will be remembered as one of the University of California’s greatest leaders. The Master Plan that he played so large a role in creating has stood the test of time. More than forty years later, the University continues to abide by the
standards it set, striving to live up to its promise of quality, access, and affordability. A memorial service for President Kerr will be held at UC Berkeley on February 20, 2004.

The meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Attest:

Secretary