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

September 22, 2004

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

Present: Regents Anderson, Blum, Connerly, Dynes, Hopkinson, Johnson, Kozberg, Lee, Marcus, Novack, Ornellas, Parsky, Pattiz, Preuss, Ruiz, Sayles, and Wachter

In attendance: Regents-designate Juline and Rominger, Faculty Representatives Blumenthal and Brunk, Secretary Trivette, General Counsel Holst, Treasurer Russ, Provost Greenwood, Senior Vice Presidents Darling and Mullinix, Vice Presidents Broome, Doby, Drake, and Foley, Chancellors Birgeneau, Bishop, Carnesale, Cicerone, Córdova, Fox, Tomlinson-Keasey, Vanderheof, and Yang, Acting Chancellor Chemers, Laboratory Director Nanos, and Recording Secretary Nietfeld

The meeting convened at 9:25 p.m. with Chairman Parsky presiding.

Faculty Representative Blumenthal introduced Professor Clifford Brunk, incoming Vice Chair of the Academic Council.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Parsky 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.

Board of Regents: The Report of the Committee on Educational Policy (from July 2004)

A. Ms. Yvette Falarca, a member of the Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action By Any Means Necessary and speaking also on behalf of Mr. Mark Airgood, Mr. Alex Bretchautch, and Mr. Ali Cruz, spoke in favor of integration and invited participation in the new civil rights movement.

B. Ms. Josie Hyman, a member of BAMN and speaking also on behalf of Ms. Olivia Campbell, Ms. Joyce Schon, and Ms. Jillian Duke-Nagruder, spoke in favor of affirmative action and asked the Board to support the aspirations of underrepresented minority students.

C. Mr. Ronald Cruz, a member of BAMN and speaking also on behalf of Mr. Daniel Carrera, Mr. Dashal Moore, and Ms. Lisa Knox, spoke against the action taken by The Regents in 1995 to end affirmative action at the University.
Committee on Finance, Item 502: Approval of University of California 2004-05 Final Budget

E. Ms. Norah Foster, speaking also on behalf of Ms. Ellie Corley, Ms. Chikako Pierce, and Ms. Stephanie Casselli, reported that the library on the Berkeley campus had suffered a loss of sixty positions over the past two years, while the salaries of her fellow library workers lag the market by 21 to 33 percent. The study “Berkeley’s Betrayal: Wages and Working Conditions at Cal” alleges that, rather than serving as a benevolent institution, the University is run more like a corporation than a public university. She charged that the administrators responsible for this culture had benefited from large salary increases funded by public money and increases in tuition. She did not believe that the two-day bonus being offered to employees could offset the cost of living in California.

Committee on Finance, Item 503: Amendments to the University of California Retirement System and Changes to Health and Welfare Benefits to Conform with the California Domestic Partner Rights and Responsibilities Act of 2003

I. Ms. Shane Snowden, the immediate past chair of the UC systemwide Lesbian, Gay, Bi-Sexual, Transgender, Intersex Association, spoke in favor of the adoption of amendments to the University of California Retirement Plan which would bring the plan into conformance with State law AB 205, noting that such adoption would end practices which have been more beneficial to married employees than to those with domestic partners.

J. Ms. Alice Cox, who retired from the University in 1992, related that she had been a partner in a same-sex relationship for 37 years; her partner also retired from the University. She noted that the retirement policies then in effect were discriminatory.
towards gays and lesbians, requiring a reduction in retirement income in order to provide for the surviving partner. She urged The Regents to support implementation of the California Domestic Partner Rights and Responsibilities Act.

Committee on Oversight of the Department of Energy Laboratories, Item 204: Discussion of the Pros and Cons of Competing for the Management of the Los Alamos National Laboratory and the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

K. Ms. Tara Dorabji, a member of Tri-Valley Cares, supported the pro and con debate that would take place concerning the University’s management of the national laboratories but also expressed her concern that the watch-dog groups had not been invited to participate.

L. Ms. Loulina Miles, an alumna of the Santa Cruz campus, reported that she had attended the Sitewide Environmental Impact Statement meetings at the Livermore Laboratory and asked that The Regents take a position on the proposals pertaining to experiments involving plutonium and underground weapons testing.

M. Mr. Josh Kearns, a Ph.D. student at the Berkeley campus, urged the Regents to re-orient the mission of the Livermore and Los Alamos Laboratories away from nuclear weapons and towards science in the public interest. He suggested that, if this is not possible, the University should discontinue its management of the laboratories.

N. Ms. Chelsea Cologne, a member of the Coalition to Demilitarize UC, asked that The Regents not bid to continue management of the Los Alamos National Laboratory. She questioned the concept of UC’s management of the weapons laboratories as a public service.

O. Mr. Mike Veiluva, counsel to the Western States Legal Foundation, submitted to The Regents the report “Up for Sale: Bidding for Management of the Nuclear Weapons Laboratories,” which concludes that divestment would be the best option for the University. He urged the Board to open a dialogue on this issue.

P. Ms. Jackie Cabasso, Executive Director of the Western States Legal Foundation, alleged that defense contractors are in charge of weapons programs at the national laboratories.

Q. Ms. Leuren Moret raised the issue of security at the Los Alamos and Livermore National Laboratories.
University-Related Matters

R. Mr. Austin Harless, a member of Education Rising, reported that his group had walked from San Jose to Berkeley, stopping at college campuses along the way, in order to voice concern about cuts to the University’s budget and rising student fees.

S. Ms. Stephanie Smith, a member of Education Rising, noted that seven members of the group had walked 65 miles and visited nine colleges in support of education. She offered to work with the Regents to advocate for more financial support from the State.

T. Ms. Laurel Carlsen, a member of Education Rising, asked the Regents to take a pro-active stance in support of an affordable education at the University.

U. Mr. Will Parrish, a member of Education Rising, reported that during the walk members of the group had received information on some of the poor conditions in cities such as Oakland, where six schools have closed over the past year. Tuition hikes will make higher education inaccessible for many of these students.

V. Ms. Tanya Smith, an alumna of and employee at the Berkeley campus, questioned the justifications given for the salary being paid to Chancellor Birgeneau. She did not believe that increasing tuition and freezing salaries would be to the benefit of the University.

2. REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT

President Dynes introduced Chancellors Birgeneu and Fox and welcomed them to their first Regents meeting. He acknowledged the appointment of Steven Chu as Director of the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. The President recalled that he was approaching the one-year anniversary of his taking office; he believed that the University’s prospects for the future seem much brighter than they did on his first day in office. The University was able to achieve a better State budget solution than had been expected, while developing many friends, supporters, and advocates throughout the state. President Dynes commented on his visits to the UC campuses, their surrounding communities, and regions of the state without a UC campus, noting that he had gained an appreciation of the impact that the University of California has on every facet of life in the state, an impact that extends even to the Olympics. If the University of California were a country, its athletes would have come in 12th in the total number of medals achieved. He will complete his inaugural tour in the near future, visiting Washington, D.C., Redding, and the Napa and Sonoma regions.

President Dynes stated that future Regents’ discussions would be taken in the context of focusing on the University’s hopes and dreams over the long term and how to make the right decisions in order to meet longer-term objectives.
In concluding the meeting, Chairman Parsky announced that the Board would be holding its first retreat as a step in the University’s long-term planning effort.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary