

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

September 21, 2005

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

Present: Regents Blum, Dynes, Hopkinson, Island, Johnson, Juline, Kozberg, Lozano, Marcus, Moores, Parsky, Pattiz, Rominger, Rosenthal, Ruiz, and Schilling

In attendance: Regents-designate Coombs, Ledesma, and Schreiner, Faculty Representatives Brunk and Oakley, Secretary Trivette, General Counsel Holst, Interim Treasurer Berggren, Provost Greenwood, Senior Vice Presidents Darling and Mullinix, Vice Presidents Doby, Foley, Gomes, Gurtner, Hershman, and Hume, Chancellors Bishop, Carnesale, Córdova, Denton, Drake, Fox, Tomlinson-Keasey, Vanderhoef, and Yang, Laboratory Director Anastasio, and Recording Secretary Bryan

The meeting convened at 9:35 a.m. with Chairman Parsky presiding.

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 comment on University-related matters. The following persons addressed the Board concerning the subjects noted.

***Committee on Finance, Item RE-61, Policies on Universitywide and Senior Leadership Compensation, and Procedures for Senior Leadership Compensation***

- A. Ms. Mary Higgins, representing the Coalition of University Employees, believed that the brief time allocated to public comment periods was an attempt to suppress input from the public. She characterized the recommendation on leadership compensation as a further attack on the University and an example of destructive corporate greed.

***University-Related Matters***

- B. Ms. Norah Foster, a UC Berkeley employee speaking on behalf of Ms. Chikako Pierce and Ms. Megan McGuire, believed that UC library assistants had been denied equity and are underpaid. She submitted a petition, bearing 1,500 signatures, which maintained that the University has sufficient funds to increase the salaries of library assistants by 14 percent as a step toward wage parity. She submitted comments from faculty and alumni throughout the state supporting her position.

- C. Mr. Victor Ojakian, a Palo Alto City Council member, submitted under the Public Records Act a list of questions related to student suicide and depression for response by the administration. He asked that the Regents place the topic on a future agenda for discussion and that they develop a prevention program.
- D. Mr. Mary Ojakian, mother of a UC Davis student who committed suicide, provided a description of her son's experience on the campus. She noted that attention needed to be paid to the mental health of students.
- E. Ms. Felicia Cruz, a UC Santa Barbara student and member of the University of California Student Association (UCSA), noted that financial aid was slated to be considered at the November meeting. She reported that substantial loans and her 25 hours per week of employment were insufficient to cover her costs. She believed that return to aid should be raised to 33 percent to help students who face financial barriers in college.
- F. Ms. Jeannie Biniek, a UCLA student and member of UCSA, believed that a return to aid of 25 percent was insufficient to maintain affordability. While it covers the fee increase for most needy students, it does not address the rising total cost of attendance. She reported that her long working hours were preventing her from participating in campus life.
- G. Ms. Jessica Pierce, Chair of the Undergraduate Student Union Assembly at the Santa Cruz campus, expressed concern that no budget preview was scheduled for this meeting. She hoped that restoring return to aid to 33 percent and freezing student fees would be a priority of the Legislature and the Regents. She was concerned about meeting the costs necessary for her to graduate.

*Representing the UC Sudan Divestment Task Force:*

- H. Ms. Jordan Steiner urged the Regents to continue their history of socially responsible investing by divesting from companies operating in Sudan until the genocide there stops. The task force is finalizing a divestment proposal which will be submitted to the Regents within the next few months.
- I. Mr. Tristan Reed noted that people are continuing to die in Darfur. At the same time, the Sudan economy has boomed because of expansion led by foreign-directed investment by companies in which the University holds stock. He believed that divestment could force the government to change its policies.
- J. Mr. Mike Smith discussed Sudan's history of changing its policies in response to economic pressure. Despite U.S. trade sanctions, foreign-directed investment in Sudan has increased, fueling an increase in government revenue that has been spent disproportionately on the Sudanese military.

- K. Mr. Michael Garner noted that since the last Regents meeting the State of Oregon has passed divestment legislation. Divestment in Sudan has been endorsed by Representative Barbara Lee and State Treasurer Angelides.

2. **REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT**

President Dynes reported that the University had launched a systemwide response to Hurricane Katrina covering a wide range of services, from medical assistance to the restoration of infrastructure. For example, UCSD Medical Center personnel joined a local international relief team to treat the ill and injured in Louisiana, the UC Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources has provided Spanish language services for Mexicans and Hondurans living in the disaster area, and Livermore laboratory employees have brought in micropower impulse radar technology to assist search and rescue operations. The University is working to accommodate students from its Gulf Coast sister institutions who were displaced by the hurricane.

President Dynes commented that he had participated in the oral presentations to the Department of Energy related to the competition for the management contract for the Los Alamos National Laboratory. He recognized Chairman Parsky for his strong remarks during the presentation and Director Anastasio for his leadership in the competition effort.

President Dynes noted that he was aware of the growing financial stress being placed on UC students and their families. He believed that long-range plans need to consider comprehensively the affordability of a UC education for both low-income and middle-income families.

Mr. Dynes commented that all campuses are struggling with the changing needs of students regarding their mental health. He reported that he has asked Provost Greenwood to undertake a comprehensive review of student health needs and services within the University.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary