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

May 18, 2006

The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at UCSF–Laurel Heights, 3333 California Street, San Francisco.

Present: Regents Blum, Dynes, Gould, Hopkinson, Island, Juline, Kozberg, Marcus, Moores, O’Connell, Parsky, Pattiz, Preuss, Rominger, Rosenthal, Ruiz, Schilling, and Wachter

In attendance: Regents-designate Coombs, Ledesma, and Schreiner, Faculty Representatives Brown and Oakley, Secretary Trivette, General Counsel Holst, Interim Treasurer Berggren, Acting Provost Hume, Senior Vice President Darling, Vice Presidents Broome, Foley, Gomes, and Hershman, Chancellors Birgeneau, Carnesale, Córdova, Fox, Tomlinson-Keasey, and Vanderhoef, Interim Laboratory Directors Kuckuck and Miller, University Auditor Reed, and Recording Secretary Nietfeld

The meeting convened at 11:20 a.m. with Chairman Parsky presiding.

1. REMARKS OF STATE SUPERINTENDENT O’CONNELL

Superintendent O’Connell observed that during these challenging times, the University is fortunate to have President Dynes as a steward. UC has the best educational system in the country, if not the world; a specific example of this excellence is the experience he and his wife have had since she was diagnosed with a brain tumor. The attending physician in San Luis Obispo, who felt that the tumor may be inoperable, suggested that they seek treatment at the UCSF Medical Center, and in particular by Dr. Berger. Mr. O’Connell reported that his wife is doing well and that she appreciates the encouragement she has received from individual Regents. He commented that colleagues on the East Coast had all recommended that help be sought from a hospital in the UC system. The Superintendent introduced Dr. Berger and his assistant, Dr. Chang, and expressed his gratitude to them. He also acknowledged the helpful assistance provided by Assistant Vice President Arditti. He recalled that the hospital at Parnassus would turn one hundred years old this year and was hopeful that a new medical facility could be constructed at UCSF. Dr. Berger commented that UCSF is the greatest medical facility in the country and that it allows its faculty to do cutting-edge science.

2. 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.
University-Related Matters

Ms. Lee Sinclair requested support from the Regents of a proposal for a new, privately funded animal welfare liaison that was presented to the UCSF campus administration at a meeting facilitated by Senator Spier. The in-house liaison would provide UCSF with an expert in the 3Rs of reduction, refinement, and replacement of animals in research.

Mr. Steve Stormen sought an appointment as a Regent.

Mr. Tommaso Boggia, a student at the Santa Cruz campus, believed that if the United States goes to war with Iran, it would use nuclear weapons produced in laboratories managed by the University of California.

Mr. Mathew Boyer, a student at the Santa Cruz campus, suggested that recent fee increases had reduced diversity on the campuses.

Dr. Robert Gould, President of the San Francisco-Bay Area Chapter of Physicians for Social Responsibility, spoke in opposition to the proposed siting of a bio-defense animal facility in Tracy, which would be managed by the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. While there is a need to develop capabilities against infectious diseases, his organization is opposed to the siting.

Mr. Jason Padoan was concerned that the University was lending legitimacy to the production of nuclear weapons.

Ms. Chelse Collogue, Ms. Liza Putkey, and Ms. Liz Uselton, members of the Coalition to Demilitarize UC, read from a bill in support of international law, the environment, and all of humanity, which was passed unanimously by the Berkeley campus Associated Students of the University of California. The resolution states that the student body calls upon the UC Regents to sever all ties with its nuclear weapons laboratories by formally exiting the Limited Liability Corporation managing Los Alamos and not participating in any upcoming bids for either of the labs. The students call upon the Regents to take the following steps to ensure satisfactory and responsible management of the national laboratories: ensure academic freedom and freedom of expression for all UC employees involved with the labs by discontinuing UC employees’ work on classified research, and take steps to prevent and clean up the contamination of the environment surrounding the labs by stopping the expansion of the radioactive waste dump site at Los Alamos, discontinuing all plans to establish a nuclear waste repository at Yucca Mountain. The students ask that a Student Oversight Committee of the DOE laboratories be established and call upon the Regents to recognize this committee as possessing the same power as The Regents’ Committee on Oversight of the Department of Energy Laboratories.
Ms. Jovanna Rosen, a student at the Berkeley campus, reported that the Associated Students were working with members of the Legislature on a student compact, ACR 34, which has passed through the Higher Education Committee with unanimous support. The compact affirms basic tenets such as affordability and access to quality education.

Mr. Arman Rezaee, a member of the University of California Students Association (UCSA) and the co-executive director of Bridges Multicultural Resources Center at Berkeley, spoke to the importance of maintaining student-initiated academic preparation programs.

Ms. Katharine Johnson, a student at the Davis campus and a member of the UCSA, urged the Regents to work with the Legislature in support of the student compact.

Ms. Ahnika Kline, a student at the San Francisco campus, pointed out that increased graduate student fees do not generate new revenue for the University and asked the Regents to think about all of the issues related to affordability.

Ms. Erica Rozetti, a student at the Davis campus, believed that UC executives were being overcompensated at the expense of the students that the University is intended to serve.

Ms. Julie Hooper, a student at the Davis campus, noted that the Bureau of State Audit’s report had found that student fees had paid for executive compensation increases in 2004 and 2005. She was disappointed that the Regents had permitted this to happen while the cost of attending UC Davis has increased 46 percent over the past year.

Mr. Paul Reilly, a former employee of UC Berkeley Extension, explained that he lost his position after assisting a student who was seeking political asylum. To date, his grievance has not been settled.

Mr. Allen Lightfelt, a student at the Berkeley campus, urged the Regents to support the student compact which is before the Legislature.

Mr. Darwin Bond-Graham, a student at the Santa Barbara campus, urged the Regents to pay attention to the remarks of students, noting that 30 seconds was inadequate time to say anything meaningful.

Dr. Murray Morgan observed that although he was a published research scientist he has been told that there are no employment opportunities for him at UC.

Ms. Tara Dorabji, an employee of Tri-Valley Cares, noted that the University has bid for a bio-weapons research facility that would be placed at Livermore Laboratory’s Site 300. Tri-Valley Cares has filed a Public Records Act Request regarding this proposal and asks for a response.
Ms. Loulina Miles, staff attorney for Tri-Valley Cares, reported that she had requested the application for the bio-weapons research facility that was submitted to the Department of Homeland Security. She asked the University to comply with the Public Records Act by allowing her to inspect the relevant documents.

Ms. Danielle Vaticano, a student at the Davis campus, discussed the negative reaction of students to increases in executive compensation.

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary