The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at UCSF-Mission Bay Community Center, San Francisco.

Members present: Regents Blum, Coombs, Dynes, Gould, Hopkinson, Johnson, Kozberg, Ledesma, Marcus, Moores, Parsky, Preuss, Ruiz, Schilling, Schreiner, and Wachter

In attendance: Regents-designate Allen, Brewer, and Bugay, Faculty Representatives Brown and Oakley, Acting Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Investment Officer Berggren, Provost Hume, Executive Vice President Darling, Vice Presidents Gomes, Hershman, and Sakaki, Chancellors Bishop, Córdova, Fox, Vanderhoef, and Yang, Acting Chancellors Abrams and Blumenthal, and Recording Secretary Smith

The meeting convened at 8:35 a.m. with Chairman Parsky presiding.

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.

Item 4RP, Establishment of Permanent Positions of Staff Advisors to The Regents

A. Ms. Samara Larson, Assistant Director of Facilities Management at UC Irvine, spoke in support of the staff advisor position to The Regents. Staff advisors share many commitments and concerns of The Regents regarding the University, and make a great contribution to the institution.

B. Mr. David Bell, Associate Mediation Officer at UC San Francisco, stated that by voting for the permanent staff advisor position The Regents is demonstrating its commitment to change.

C. Mr. J. P. Eres, Project Analyst at UC Davis Medical Center, explained the benefits of having the perspective of staff advisors to The Regents. If approved, the feedback process will become more streamlined, allowing issues and communication to be more comprehensive and consistent.
Item RE89, Adoption of Policy Restricting University Acceptance of Funding from the Tobacco Industry

D. Ms. Corina Bigham, Ph.D. student at UC Davis, argued that the tobacco industry has a long history of deceiving and lying to the American public. With regard to UC, the tobacco industry has engaged in funding arrangements that suppress academic freedom. She urged that The Regents deny this federally-convicted organization from associating its name with the UC system.

E. Mr. Gordon Fung, faculty at UC San Francisco, encouraged The Regents to adopt the policy on tobacco funding. If adopted, UC will join other prominent institutions that have refused such funding. He stated that funding organizations and agencies are not granting funds to research institutions that do not have a policy to restrict tobacco industry funding.

F. Mr. Glynn Washington, Executive Director of the Council for Responsible Public Investment, explained that this group worked with several organizations to develop anti-tobacco investment policies. He thanked The Regents for bringing this policy to the fore since tobacco investment is too high a price to pay.

G. Mr. Joel Moskowitz, Director of the Center for Family and Community Health at UC Berkeley, explained that he and other faculty members researched this issue carefully and adopted a policy not to accept tobacco funding as it was inconsistent with the school’s mission of the health of the human population. In March 2005 the Office of the President overturned this policy since only The Regents have the authority to restrict funding sources.

H. Mr. Wei Hu, Professor Emeritus at UC Berkeley, explained that his research focuses on the social cost of cigarette smoking. There are 4 million premature deaths related to smoking currently, and by 2030 deaths will reach 10 million, most from developing countries.

I. Ms. Michelle Lee, undergraduate student at UC Berkeley, strongly urged The Regents to adopt the policy. In order for UC Berkeley to maintain its credibility, any partnerships with the tobacco industry need to be stopped. The tobacco industry uses its research to work against UC’s fundamental mission of teaching, research, and public service.

J. Ms. Laura Miller, UC Berkeley graduate, urged the adoption of the policy. The tobacco industry stands against academic freedom by damaging and manipulating the research process. Such restriction would prevent the tobacco industry from using UC’s name to buy credibility.
University-Related Issues

K. Mr. Charles Schwartz, Professor Emeritus at UC Berkeley, stated that, based upon his own studies of the University’s accounting records and correspondence with the Office of the President, the expenditure per student on undergraduate education claimed in the Regent’s budget is misleading and should be disaggregated.

L. Ms. Tina Park, External Vice President for the Undergraduate Students at UCLA, urged The Regents not to include fee increases in the budget, and to instead work for alternatives. Increasing the work requirement by $500 would place an undue burden on her and other students.

M. Ms. Monica Sanchez, President of Graduate Student Association at UCLA, spoke against any fee increase. The proposed fee increase of $793 seems inexpensive, but it is a large burden from the perspective of a low-income graduate student, particularly a single divorced mother who earns $735 per month as a researcher and whose rent is $1200 per month.

N. Mr. Maximillian Micalonis, student at UC Davis, stated that many people are no longer UC students or in the State of California due to fee increases. He urged The Regents to negotiate with the Governor for a fee buy-back.

O. Ms. Suzanne Duckette, mother from Ventura county, stated that her daughter’s membership in 4-H is at risk. She and her daughter are speaking against bullying and retribution practices by 4-H staff to intimidate volunteers. She urged The Regents to pick up their phones and stop this behavior.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Attest:

Acting Secretary