THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
MEETING AS A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
September 20, 2007

The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at Mondavi Center, Davis campus.

Members present: Regents Allen, Blum, Brewer, Bugay, De La Peña, Dynes, Gould, Hopkinson, Island, Johnson, Kozberg, Moores, Parsky, Pattiz, Preuss, Ruiz, Varner, and Wachter

In attendance: Regents-designate Cole, Scorza, and Shewmake, Faculty Representatives Brown and Croughan, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Provost Hume, Executive Vice Presidents Darling and Lapp, Vice Presidents Foley and Sakaki, Acting Vice President Standiford, Chancellors Birgeneau, Bishop, Block, Fox, Kang, Vanderhoef, and Yang, Acting Chancellors Blumenthal and Grey, and Recording Secretary Smith

The meeting convened at 9:05 a.m. with Chairman Blum presiding.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Blum 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 subjects noted.

Item RE89: Adoption of Policy Requiring Special Review/Approval Procedures Prior to University Submission of Research Proposals to Tobacco Industry Funders

A. Ms. Gail Simpson, UC alumna, stated that the Regents have the opportunity to safeguard the integrity of UC by ensuring that strict guidelines are instituted to maintain transparency in research.

B. Mr. Dennis Raj, UCD student, urged the passing of RE89, arguing that the tobacco industry funds research in order to gain credibility and obscure the true harm of smoking.

C. Ms. Leslie Moir, UCD student, stated that the tobacco industry has a proven history of distorting research; associations with such an industry will diminish the credibility of the University.

D. Ms. Marcia Brown Machen, UC alumna, stated that the only purpose of Philip Morris is to increase shareholder profits by addicting young adults and children to tobacco. By accepting funding from Philip Morris, the University is assisting the industry in promoting deadly products to college students.
E. Ms. Meredith Glaser, UCD alumna and UCB student, expressed her embarrassment that the University continues to accept funding from the criminal tobacco industry. She hoped that the University would follow in the footsteps of other prominent universities and pass RE89.

F. Ms. Laura Miller, UCB alumna, urged the Regents to pass a resolution that prohibits tobacco industry funding of research, noting that the tobacco industry has already encroached on academic freedom by carefully selecting what is published.

G. Ms. Yoo-Mee Yeo, UCB student, expressed concern that accepting tobacco industry funding for research damages the University’s hard-earned reputation.

H. Ms. Sarah Clegg, UCB student, explained that prohibiting tobacco industry funding for research would not present a slippery slope since tobacco is a unique product that when used as directed will kill half of its users.

I. Ms. Kim Homer, UC alumna, expressed concern over the $6 million contract between the tobacco industry and UCLA to conduct research on youth, particularly the lack of transparency and the difficulty of obtaining information regarding that research.

J. Ms. Corina Bigham, UCD student, expressed her concerns that the tobacco industry has repeatedly lied to the public and acted in the interest of corporate profit rather than public health.

**Item J3: Approval of a Three-Year Plan for Professional Degree Program Fees and Proposed Professional Degree Fee Increases for 2008-09**

K. Ms. Grace Young, UCI student, noted the lack of student-initiated academic preparation programs at her campus; she requested more funding for these programs for outreach to disaggregated Asian groups. She read several statements from professional school students urging the Regents not to raise fees.

L. Mr. Alex Greninger, UCSF student, presented over 170 postcards from UCSF first-year students, written the day prior, urging the Regents not to raise fees; such statements prove that students do not want higher fees, as some deans claim.

M. Mr. Jesse Bernal, UCSB student, encouraged the Regents to consider strongly the implications on diversity of raising professional school fees, and urged that restrictions be placed on the fees if they are passed.

N. Mr. Ronald Cruz, UCB student, pointed out that the initiative to raise professional student fees will have a negative effect on diversity, particularly the accessibility of African-American, Latino, and Native American students to the University.

O. Ms. Amy Choi, UCSF student, stated that she is the first in her family to pursue higher education in a professional school, and that she has a loan of $130,000.
She questioned whether raising fees would solve UC’s problems, and if there will be additional resources for financial aid and to help students repay loans.

**Item RE111: Overview Report of the Study Group on University Diversity**

P. Ms. Jesse Dubler, UCSD student, speaking as a disabled person with a lifelong interest in diversity issues, stated that the Regents should seriously consider the explicit inclusion of the disabled in the category of underrepresented students, noting the correlation between underrepresented minorities and disabled groups.

Q. Ms. Adarene Hoag, UCB student, stated that Regents should work to integrate the UC campuses, rather than segregate them as former Regent Connerly did, by making the commitment to increasing diversity.

**Selection of a New University President**

R. Mr. Edgardo Vasquez, AFSCME representative, stated that the University is not fulfilling its public mission, and urges that the next President fulfill its principles.

S. Mr. Jameel Hall, AFSCME representative, stated that executive transparency is a key issue when hiring a new University President, arguing that the University must encourage public participation in decision-making processes by granting shared governance in the UC retirement plan.

T. Ms. Sue Polley, UCD employee and CUE representative, questioned the University’s plan to take 10 years to increase staff salaries at the same time it aims to reduce benefits and increase health care costs.

**Other University-Related Issues**

U. Ms. Leuren Moret, speaking on behalf of former Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir, reported that she has informed Southeast Asian countries of the possibility of radiation contamination if the U.S. drops a nuclear bomb on Iran.

V. Ms. Kathi Young, CUE representative and UCOP employee, stated that Provost Hume’s statement on ensuring that UC staff salaries remain competitive and equitable is misguided in that staff salaries are neither, noting that California State University salaries are 22 percent higher than UC’s for comparable positions.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff