The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at Covel Commons, Los Angeles Campus

Members present: Regents Allen, Bugay, Hopkinson, Kozberg, Ruiz, and Schilling

In attendance: Regents-designate Scorza and Shewmake, Faculty Representatives Brown and Croughan, Secretary and Chief of Staff Griffiths, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Provost Hume, Executive Vice President Lapp, Vice President Sakaki, Chancellors Blumenthal, Drake, Fox, and Vanderhoef, and Recording Secretary Johns

The meeting convened at 10:50 a.m. with Regent Kozberg presiding.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Regent Kozberg 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.

A. Ms. Alisa Ahmadian, a UCLA student, co-chair of E-3, Ecology, Economy, Equity, the UCLA chapter of the California Student Sustainability Coalition (CSSC), and undergraduate representative on the Office of the President (UCOP) Sustainability Committee, expressed the pride of UC students, administrators, and staff in the fact that UC has been declared the fourth greenest university in the U.S. and the greenest public university. She challenged the UCOP Sustainability Committee to institute greater transparency. She proposed a system of regional meetings to increase local discussion among campuses and sharing of knowledge.

B. Ms. Nina Salvador, a UCSB geography and environmental studies student and CSSC member, expressed pride in UC’s work on sustainability. She noted UC’s award from the Environmental Protection Agency for environmentally responsible purchasing, and that the UCOP sustainability manager was invited by Speaker Nancy Pelosi to help establish an office of sustainability in Congress. She observed that the University not only joined the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC), but then instituted its own climate protection policy which exceeds ACUPCC standards. She invited the Regents to attend the 2008 sustainability conference, to be held in San Luis Obispo, and urged the Regents to maintain the goals and standards of excellence that have now been established.
C. Ms. Maia Kazaks, a UCSB student and CSSC member, expressed pride in the large number of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certified buildings at UCSB. She reported that UCSB plans to certify 25 buildings in the next five years. She noted the Bren Building, which houses the Donald Bren School for Environmental Science and Management and has the first platinum-rated laboratory in the U.S. She encouraged all campuses to achieve LEED certification for existing buildings, and to demonstrate accountability through third-party, outside certification by the U.S. Green Building Council.

D. Ms. Ingrid Avison, a UCSB student and CSSC member, read a statement by Abby Chroman, UCD student and CSSC co-chair. Ms. Chroman noted the unique role of students and young people in the clean energy movement. She reported that she has not received a response from UCD Chancellor Vanderhoef to her letter urging implementation of a climate action plan for the campus. Ms. Chroman asked the Regents to urge the chancellors to prioritize climate neutrality.

E. Ms. Caroline Murray, a UCLA student and policy coordinator for CSSC, stressed the University’s power to effect positive change and serve as a model for higher education institutions across the U.S. She identified policy implementation and oversight as an important element in sustainability efforts. Noting that only one of the ten UC campuses has created a climate action plan, she urged the Regents to ensure that all ten campuses develop a climate action plan and work actively toward climate neutrality.

F. Mr. Gabriel Gordon-Harper, a UCB student active in CSSC, thanked the Regents and UCOP for their efforts to develop a UC policy on sustainable food systems as part of the UC Policy on Sustainability Practices. He cited a campus food assessment survey now under way to gather data and establish policy metrics and goals, and noted that UCSC and UCD have received USDA grants for the development of sustainable food initiatives. He urged the Regents to support implementation of a sustainable food policy as part of the UC Policy on Sustainability Practices.

G. Mr. Montgomery Norton, UCI student and graduate student representative on the UC Sustainability Steering Committee, expressed pride in the University’s achievements and success in sustainability, and gratitude for the leadership of Assistant Vice President Michael Bocchicchio, Manager Matthew St. Clair, and Specialist Andrew Coghlan. He discussed the broad scope and development of UC’s sustainability policy and identified climate neutrality as its goal. Mr. Norton invited the Regents to Focus the Nation, a national program of educational symposia on global warming, with events scheduled at each UC campus, and discussed the goals of the program.

H. Ms. Pamela Tuttle, UCLA student and co-chair of UCLA’s CSSC chapter, thanked staff, students, and faculty for their work for sustainability at UC. She
discussed the recognition the University has received in the media as the fourth greenest university in the U.S., and its leadership in 2003 on green building policy. Ms. Tuttle opined that UC has since fallen behind. She stated that UC policy does not address sustainable food systems, while green buildings at UC require only the lowest standard of certification, with no accountability to a third party. She urged that the University remain a bold model for the twenty-first century.

I. Mr. Roger Craig, president of the board of directors of the La Jolla Historical Society, expressed opposition to the proposed demolition of the Chancellor’s residence at UCSD, a building with historic value located on a site with important archeological remains. He discussed the Society’s effort to have the property listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The building is already listed on the California Register of Historical Resources. Mr. Craig stated that the Society has not been able to coordinate with UCSD on alternatives to demolition. Mr. Craig asserted that the house can be made eminently livable and suitable for meetings and small gatherings, without need for building a larger center.

J. Mr. Bruce Coons, executive director of the Save Our Heritage Organisation (SOHO), California’s oldest historic preservation group, asked the Regents to decline certification of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the UCSD Chancellor’s residence project and prevent demolition of the historic University House building. He referred to SOHO’s comment letter. Mr. Coons stated that the University’s responses to comments, provided in the final EIR, are largely unsupported and inadequate. Mr. Coons suggested that the EIR should be re-circulated for public comment and reported that the final EIR, although it is dated December 20, 2007, was not made available until a few days ago. He emphasized that the concerned public should be allowed to review the final EIR and its substantial appendices before the Regents consider certification.

K. Ms. Carmen Lucas, a Kumeyaay (Kwaaymii) Indian and resident of the former Laguna Indian reservation, expressed criticism of the University’s final EIR for the UCSD Chancellor’s residence project. While the final EIR acknowledges the historical value of the site, it determines that the cost of archeological excavation and preservation of the traditional cultural landscape is too high. Ms. Lucas discussed the ongoing efforts of the San Diego Kumeyaay Cultural Repatriation Committee to repatriate the remains of the La Jolla people. The remains from the La Jolla site are older than Kennewick man, dated to 9,300 years before the present.

L. Ms. Courtney Coyle, an attorney representing Ms. Lucas, provided the Regents with documents regarding the UCSD Chancellor’s residence project. She asked the Regents to recognize the problems inherent in this project on the San Diego campus. She stated that UCSD’s relations with Native Americans and the community are not good at present. She noted that the University has received letters of concern from the State Office of Historic Preservation, the Native
American Heritage Commission, the California Coastal Commission, and State Senators Denise Ducheny and Christine Kehoe, requesting continuance of the matter for further consideration and work. She reported that the University cut off its discussion with the tribes and placed the item on the Regents’ agenda. Ms. Coyle asserted that UCSD has not resolved the outstanding environmental issues.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff