THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
MEETING AS A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
September 18, 2008

The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at the Student Center, Irvine Campus.


In attendance: Regents-designate Bernal and Stovitz, Faculty Representatives Croughan and Powell, Secretary and Chief of Staff Griffiths, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Investment Officer Berggren, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Vacca, Interim Provost Grey, Executive Vice Presidents Darling and Lapp, Senior Vice President Hoffman, Vice Presidents Lenz and Sakaki, Chancellors Birgeneau, Block, Blumenthal, Drake, Fox, Kang, Vanderhoef, White, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Lopes

The meeting convened at 8:45 a.m. with Chairman Blum presiding.

1. 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 items noted.

A. Ms. LaKesha Harrison, President of American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 3299, International Vice President, and an employee at UCLA Medical Center, spoke regarding ending the poverty of service workers.

B. Ms. Wendy Tarr, representing Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice in Orange County, spoke regarding economic justice for service workers. Ms. Tarr advised that her husband, a pastor in Orange County, and their organization, are concerned for the members of their congregation as well as other service workers over wage issues.

C. Reverend Martha Korienek, the Episcopal minister on the Irvine campus, expressed her concern for the UC service workers. She pointed out that the University, which is educating students to be strong and ethical workers who will work for the betterment of the society, must be an example of the values and ethics it teaches.
D. Mr. Julian Posadas, a UC employee and Executive Vice President for AFSCME Local 3299, representing 20,000 University service and patient-care workers, echoed the concern of previous speakers regarding wages for service workers.

E. Ms. Rosa Martinez, an employee at UC San Diego, spoke on behalf of herself and her co-workers regarding wage issues.

F. Rabbi Laurie Coskey, Chairperson of Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice in California, provided a written statement read by an unnamed representative. Their organization represents an ecumenical assembly of faith leaders united in their concern for patient care and service workers. She urged completion of negotiations and just treatment of employees.

G. Ms. Maria Elena Aragon, an employee at UC Irvine Medical Center, spoke regarding her quality of life depending on the current wages.

H. Mr. Steve Stormoen, Nuclear Age Peace Foundation representative and an advisor to the Student Department of Energy Laboratory Oversight Committee, advised that the Regents would be addressed by Miyako Yano and Junko Kayashige, survivors of the atomic bombings in Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and requested additional time for them to speak.

I. Mr. Jonathan Wright thanked the Regents for the opportunity to be heard and expressed concern about the direction of the University. He stated that hiring one individual for close to $1 million, building an $8 million home, and building a stadium costing $125 million, while service workers go without a fair contract, is unacceptable.

J. Ms. Pam Michaels Sutherland, an alumna of the University of California, spoke regarding the lack of interactive accommodation for Ron Hamtoff, a pharmacist employed by the University.

K. Mr. John Williams spoke regarding the “Walmartization” of the University, accessibility, and fair wages for workers.

L. Mr. Nicholas Robinson, an alumnus of UC Santa Barbara, spoke regarding the effects of nuclear weapons on human beings.

M. Ms. Kaitlyn Ezell, a student at UC Santa Barbara and member of the Student Department of Energy Laboratory Oversight Committee, addressed quality of life concerns. She stated that speakers in the public comment period feel that their legitimate concerns are not being heard.
N. Ms. Joyce Yates, an employee at UC San Diego and a member of the AFSCME bargaining team, addressed her frustration with the service worker wages.

O. Mr. Mike Lawrence, who spoke the day before, returned to remind the Regents that AFSCME contract negotiations have been ongoing for over a year and that the union is asking for equitable wages.

P. Ms. Rebecca Redman, representing the Student Department of Energy Laboratory Oversight Committee, yielded her time to the Hibakusha, atomic bomb survivors.

Q. Ms. Tracy Sachs, a student at UCLA, yielded her time to the Hiroshima survivors.

R. Ms. Beka Smith, a student at UC Santa Cruz, yielded her time to the Hiroshima survivors.

S. Ms. Junko Kayashige spoke through an interpreter regarding her experience as a survivor of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima. She reminded the Regents that by December 1945, 140,000 people died in Hiroshima, most from the radiation after-effects. Those effects are still continuing 63 years later. She expressed her concern at the involvement of the University in the nuclear weapons laboratories.

T. Ms. Miyako Yano spoke through an interpreter. She is a Hibakusha, a survivor of the atomic bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. She expressed her surprise and anger at the participation of the University with the Department of Energy laboratories.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff