

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

May 7, 2009

A special meeting of the Regents of the University of California was held by teleconference on the above date at the following locations: UCSF–Mission Bay Community Center, 1675 Owens Street, San Francisco; International Room, Tom Bradley International Hall, Los Angeles Campus; Moss Cove A and B, Student Center, Irvine Campus; 355 Highlander Union Building, Riverside Campus; Ballroom B, Price Center, San Diego Campus; Chancellor’s Conference Room, 5123 Cheadle Hall, Santa Barbara Campus; 501 S. Alta Avenue, Dinuba; 700 S. Flower Street, Los Angeles; 2220 Lodgepole Circle, Modesto; 777 California Avenue, Palo Alto; 3110 Main Street, Santa Monica; 12006 Bennett Flat Road, Truckee; Board Room, 1806 N. Nimitz Street, Victoria, Texas.

Present: Regents Blum, Cole, De La Peña, Gould, Island, Johnson, Kieffer, Lansing, Lozano, Makarechian, Marcus, Reiss, Ruiz, Schilling, Shewmake, Varner, Wachter, Yudof, and Zettel

In attendance: Regents-designate Bernal, Nunn Gorman, and Stovitz, Faculty Representatives Croughan and Powell, Secretary and Chief of Staff Griffiths, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Investment Officer Berggren, Interim Provost Pitts, Executive Vice Presidents Darling, Lapp, and Taylor, Senior Vice Presidents Dooley and Stobo, Vice Presidents Lenz and Sakaki, Chancellors Birgeneau, Bishop, Block, Blumenthal, Drake, Fox, Kang, Vanderhoef, White, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Johns

The meeting convened at 9:50 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 items noted.

1. Mr. Taylor Gilliland, a graduate student in biomedical sciences at UC San Diego and member of Universities Allied for Essential Medicines, discussed global access to medicines. He advocated an open access licensing approach that would permit generic production and distribution of biomedical products developed on UC campuses for patients in low-income nations. The University should make global access a priority in its licensing and technology transfer agreements. Mr. Gilliland noted that there was worldwide support for such action.
2. Ms. Mary Higgins, an employee at UC San Francisco and representative of the Coalition of University Employees (CUE), expressed concern about proposed asset allocations of

hedge funds and real estate in the UC Retirement Plan. She criticized a measure to be considered that day by the Regents that would allow the President to implement employee furloughs. She stated that President Yudof was being given too much power and that this was hurting the University. Ms. Higgins suggested that UC medical centers lend money to their campuses during the financial crisis.

3. Mr. Julian Posadas, a representative of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), called for joint governance of the UC Retirement Plan by management and employees. Workers at UC, like those at the California State University and the community colleges, should have a voice in how their pension fund is managed. He urged that, when contributions to the UC Retirement Plan resume, the University contribute \$5 for every \$1 contributed by employees.
4. Mr. Patrick Hallahan, a labor representative for the State Employees Trades Council United (SETC), emphasized the importance of the work performed at UC by SETC members and discussed how the union would like to partner with the University by advocating for State funding for UC capital programs, green technology, and sustainability. SETC proposes a training and apprenticeship model in the UC system that would receive federal stimulus funding. Mr. Hallahan urged UCLA to settle its contract with SETC.
5. Mr. Ian Greenhouse, a graduate student in psychology at UCSD, spoke on behalf of Universities Allied for Essential Medicines. He expressed concern that effective biomedical technology developed at UC was not reaching those who most need it due to current technology licensing practices. He urged the University to adopt a global access licensing system as proposed by Universities Allied for Essential Medicines, an organization represented at universities internationally and supported by businesspeople, lawyers, scientists, doctors, public policy leaders, and ten Nobel laureates.
6. Ms. Natalie Spritzer, a UCSD alumna, speaking on behalf of Universities Allied for Essential Medicines, cited widespread lack of access to essential medicines worldwide and mortality rates in the Global South. Universities which develop drugs, vaccines, and medical diagnostics should make affordable versions of these available in resource-poor nations for essential medical care. She urged prompt action.
7. Ms. Maria Tillmans, a former lecturer at UCSD, expressed concern about the status of lecturers and librarians at the University. She stated that lecturers teach 50 percent of UC's course load, while librarians provide essential instruction to students in conducting research. The University must fully fund and support lecturers and librarians, who are the foundation of the University.
8. Mr. Jesse Cheng, a student at UC Irvine and member of the UC Student Association (UCSA), expressed disappointment at the fact that the Regents were prepared to approve another increase in student fees later that day. The trend of fee increases at UC over several years contradicted the core values of the California Master Plan for Higher

Education. Mr. Cheng discussed the bad effects that a high fee/high aid model would have on UC students.

9. Mr. Hector Rivera, a student at UC Riverside and member of UCSA, opposed the proposed 9.3 percent fee increase and a high fee/high aid model for UC. He stated that the University has implicitly abandoned the California Master Plan for Higher Education and noted the effects of a high fee/high aid model on students of various income levels.
10. Ms. Celina Ayala, a student at UC Santa Barbara and member of UCSA, warned that a high fee/high aid model would privatize the UC system and detract from the University's core mission of providing education for all qualified students regardless of income. Continuing fee increases will make the University appear unresponsive to public opinion.
11. Mr. Adam Brown, a nonresident student at UCLA, expressed concern about the proposed increase in nonresident tuition, approximately \$2,000 in addition to the approximately \$700 fee increase for all UC students. Nonresident students are not eligible for financial aid or assistance available to California students. Mr. Brown expressed his feeling of being treated unfairly and that nonresident students are being ill-used.
12. Ms. Teresa Avendano, a UCLA employee and AFSCME member, argued for UC worker involvement in the management of the UC Retirement Plan to prevent policies that benefit only highly-paid executives. She stated that the pension endowment has not performed well during the last decade and attributed this to conflicts of interest, lax governance, and excessive secrecy. Ms. Avendano expressed concern about the selection of Mercer Investment Consulting as the Regents' investment consultant.
13. Ms. Dorothea Stewart, a UCSD employee and CUE representative, urged the Regents not to approve the proposed measure that would authorize the President to implement employee furloughs. She advocated joint governance of the UC Retirement Plan by management and employees, expressed disapproval of exceptions to compensation policies made for senior executives, and asked the Regents to support Assembly Concurrent Resolution 55 concerning workplace bullying.
14. Ms. Carolan Buckmaster, a UCSD staff research associate, called on the University to recognize the value of researchers and technical staff, members of the University Professional and Technical Employees (UPTE), by granting them a raise similar to that given to AFSCME service workers. She stated that strike actions by UPTE members at UC Berkeley had been necessary to bring movement in negotiations with the University.
15. Ms. Stephanie Jed, an associate professor in the Department of Literature at UCSD, expressed concern about the safety of the Literature Building and its impact on health. She reported that a cancer cluster has been identified in the building with a rate four to five times higher than in the general population. The situation is a cause for serious anxiety, and Ms. Jed urged the Regents to intervene.

16. Ms. Gracelynn West, a student at UCSD and member of UCSA, expressed opposition to a fee increase and to the high fee/high aid model. She cautioned that, while federal tax credits would cover the fee increases for many students this year, in four years the tax credits would end, while the fee increases would remain effective. Financial aid is not guaranteed for all students who need it. She asked the Regents not to increase fees.
17. Mr. Nick Saenz, a UCSD graduate student and representative of the UCSD Graduate Student Association, expressed concern about the proposed increase to the Registration Fee for the coming year. He recalled that this fee is intended to support student services and stated that, despite the increase, student services will be reduced. This would belie the University's efforts for greater transparency.
18. Ms. Jaclyn Feldstein, a student at UCSB and member of UCSA, expressed concern about privatization of the University through the high fee/high aid model. High fees eliminate UC's price advantage over private colleges, forcing UC to compete with them. Ms. Feldstein cited a recent poll showing that 72 percent of Californians name cost as the top issue in higher education.
19. Mr. Brandon Harrison, a student at UCLA and member of UCSA, asserted that the total cost of attending UC, including fees, books, food, rent, transportation, and health insurance makes UC more expensive than comparable institutions. UC fees have increased at a much higher rate than inflation. Many students do not even consider UC as a possibility due to high and unpredictable fees.
20. Ms. Lisa Chen, a student at UCSD and member of UCSA, expressed disappointment that there was not more time for public input at this Regents meeting. She recalled that there are usually three days for public comment; at this meeting there was only one day. She stated that voting on a student fee increase by teleconference was not a transparent process.
21. Ms. Erin Brodwin, a UCSD student, referred to the difficulties faced by many students who must work multiple jobs to support themselves while at the University and described herself as a middle-income student who is not eligible for financial aid and who can no longer afford to attend UCSD. She urged the Regents not to increase student fees.
22. Ms. Celina Velazquez, a UCSD student, discussed her family's financial challenges. She stated that she did not know how she and her sister would be able to continue attending UC if fees were increased. She emphasized that this concern is common to many students.
23. Mr. Facundo Ramos, a UCSD student, informed the Regents that he is an AB 540 undocumented student. He reported that he receives no financial aid, that his parents' combined annual income is less than \$40,000, and that he was almost unable to enroll during the last two quarters due to the financial challenge. He urged the Regents not to increase student fees.

24. Mr. Victor Brown, a UCSD student, noted that the financial aid offered at UC was critical to his decision to attend the University. He discussed the current financial challenges posed by fees and the cost of housing and noted that, with fee increases, many minority students would not even apply to the UC system, and those already in the system might not be able to stay. A 9.3 percent fee increase would cause UC to lose lower- and middle-income students and minority students.
25. A UCSD student reported that he is eligible for only a small amount of financial aid and that paying for his education at UCSD has become a great strain for his family. He and his brother have been forced to consider attending a community college rather than UC or another university.
26. Ms. Fnann Keflezighi, a UCSD student, reported that she works during the summer and the school year. She expressed concern that a fee increase would force her to work more hours and reduce her involvement on campus, with an ultimate negative effect on her job qualifications and future. She asked the Regents to consider the struggles that many students would face with increased fees, and not to increase fees.
27. Ms. Desiree Prevo, a UCSD student, asked the Regents to consider the preceding statements made by other students and to realize the impact of a fee increase. She emphasized the importance of students for the University and that UC students will affect the future and contribute value to society.

Chairman Blum observed that, for over 25 years, there has been a direct correlation between underfunding by the State and increases in student fees. The State has cut the University's budget by over \$200 million, and more cuts are anticipated. The State has not lived up to its obligation. Chairman Blum affirmed that the Regents do listen to students. If young people do not receive a decent education, the future of California in 20 years is uncertain. He asked students to assist the University in making its voice heard in Sacramento.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff