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

March 25, 2010

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

Members present: Regents Bernal, Blum, De La Peña, Gould, Island, Kieffer, Lansing, Makarechian, Nunn Gorman, Pattiz, Reiss, Ruiz, Schilling, Stovitz, Varner, Wachter, Yudof, and Zettel

In attendance: Regents-designate Cheng, DeFreece, and Hime, Faculty Representative Simmons, Secretary and Chief of Staff Griffiths, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Investment Officer Berggren, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Vacca, Interim Provost Pitts, Executive Vice Presidents Brostrom and Taylor, Senior Vice Presidents Dooley and Stobo, Vice Presidents Beckwith, Duckett, and Lenz, Chancellors Birgeneau, Block, Blumenthal, Desmond-Hellmann, Drake, Fox, Kang, Katehi, White, and Yang, Laboratory Director Alivisatos, and Recording Secretary Harms

The meeting convened at 10:20 a.m. with Chairman Gould presiding.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Gould 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.

1. Ms. Melissa Olague, a second-year student at UCSD and an intern at the campus Women’s Center, informed the Regents that the campus’ network of centers provide some students the only place where they feel at home. Although racism, sexism, and homophobia are rampant on the campuses, community centers that provide crucial support are extremely undervalued and underfunded.

2. Mr. Bryant Peña stated that UC needs to put in place institutional changes for diversity education that will create a more socially conscious student body. He urged the Regents to consider how tuition increases affect diversity, and suggested that higher fees funnel students of color out of the university system and into the prison system.

3. Ms. Coral Castillo, a graduating senior at UCSD, stated that she has worked 15 to 20 hours a week this quarter and has a second job as student leader in the Sustainable Resource Center. She said that she is trying to graduate as quickly as possible by taking 22 units a quarter. When she graduates, she will have over $22,500 in loans.
4. Ms. Gracelynne West, a fourth-year student at UCSD, emphasized that intolerant actions take place every day on the San Diego campus. She has been subjected to racial slurs in her dormitory, and the campus climate has adversely affected her mental, physical, and psychological health. She explained that it is hard to advocate for accessibility to a campus where students feel unprotected and unsafe.

5. Ms. Jessica Caloza, a student from UCSD, stated that she was appalled but not shocked by the racist events on the San Diego campus. She stated that racial slurs happen on a daily basis, and that the administration’s reaction was a public relations effort. She expressed frustration that she and other students drove eight hours to be at the meeting and were only given a limited time for public comment.

6. Dr. Stuart Bussey, a family doctor for 25 years and president of the Union of American Physicians and Dentists (UAPD), expressed his organization’s distrust of the report that proposes UC’s management of the prison health care system in California. He stated that if UC manages prison health care, doctors will be replaced by residents and inmate care will be compromised. He called for an independent study of the proposal.

7. Mr. Andrew Kahn, an attorney for UAPD, stated his opposition to UC becoming the sole employer of the physician workforce at the prisons. He said that UC can play a role in the prison system by entering a management contract or a joint employer relationship. Mr. Kahn stated that if UC becomes the sole employer, it will encounter several serious legal consequences.

The meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff