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

July 15, 2010

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


In attendance: Regents-designate Hallett, Mireles, and Pelliccioni, Faculty Representatives Powell and Simmons, Secretary and Chief of Staff Griffiths, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Investment Officer Berggren, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Vacca, Provost Pitts, Executive Vice Presidents Brostrom and Taylor, Senior Vice President Stobo, Vice Presidents Beckwith, Duckett, Lenz, and Sakaki, Chancellors Block, Blumenthal, Drake, Fox, Kang, Katehi, White, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Johns

The meeting convened at 9:25 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. The following persons addressed the Board concerning the items noted.

1. Mr. Robert Samuels, an instructor at UCLA, expressed concern that unions, librarians, and lecturers were not represented on the UC Commission on the Future. He reported results of an alternative systemwide survey on the Commission. Students and faculty gave low ratings to Commission recommendations, especially those for reduction of teaching staff, elimination of certain major programs, scheduling of annual fee increases, and differential fees among the campuses. Most respondents were opposed to online instruction. There was some support for increasing the number of out-of-state students and for the idea of a three-year degree. Mr. Samuels noted that full information about the survey was available on the University Council – American Federation of Teachers website.

2. Ms. Leila Beckwith, UCLA professor emerita, stated that many Jewish students feel threatened on UC campuses. She expressed concern about anti-Semitic incidents at UC and requested that the University adopt the U.S. Department of State’s working definition of anti-Semitism, acknowledge that anti-Semitism has been a problem on UC campuses, and issue a public systemwide statement unequivocally condemning anti-Semitism at UC. Ms. Beckwith stated that many anti-Semitic incidents at UC have not been identified
or condemned and that the President’s Council on Campus Climate, Culture, and Inclusion may not be able to address instances of anti-Semitic bigotry.

3. Mr. Zachary Hansen, a student and member of the men’s swim team at UC Davis, criticized the decision-making process which led to the elimination of certain sports programs at UCD. He quoted a principle of the campus’ Division I athletics program, according to which the campus cannot reduce its broad-based program but rather must seek to add sports. Mr. Hansen stated that promises to students have been violated and warned that this sets a bad precedent. He suggested that the campus reinstate the eliminated sports teams for one year and undertake a thorough and transparent review.

4. Ms. Wafa Ben Hassine, president of the Associated Students of UC San Diego, expressed concern about discrimination against Arab American, Muslim American, Jewish, African American, and Latino students and students of color on UC campuses. She stated that the University discriminated against 11 students at UC Irvine who exercised their freedom of speech during a protest. She urged the Regents to address discrimination with quick and direct action.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff