

The Regents of the University of California

COMMITTEE ON HEALTH SERVICES

January 21, 2010

The Committee on Health Services met on the above date at UCSF–Mission Bay Community Center, San Francisco.

Members present: Regents De La Peña, Island, Lansing, Ruiz, Stovitz, and Zettel; Ex officio members Gould and Yudof; Advisory members Cheng and Powell; Staff Advisor Martinez

In attendance: Regents Bernal, Kieffer, Kozberg, Lozano, Makarechian, Marcus, Schilling, and Varner, Regents-designate DeFreece and Hime, Faculty Representative Simmons, Secretary and Chief of Staff Griffiths, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Investment Officer Berggren, Interim Provost Pitts, Interim Executive Vice President Brostrom, Senior Vice President Stobo, Vice Presidents Lenz and Sakaki, Chancellors Block, Blumenthal, Desmond-Hellmann, Drake, Fox, Kang, Katehi, White, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Harms

The meeting convened at 11:00 a.m. with Committee Chair Lansing presiding.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of November 19, 2009 were approved.

2. REPORT FROM UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SCHOOLS OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Senior Vice President Stobo noted that the presentation on public health was being made at a propitious time, given the national health care reform movement with its focus on access to care, quality of care, and cost-effectiveness. These issues are crucial to UC's schools of public health and are in the forefront of their activities. Dr. Stobo introduced Linda Rosenstock, Dean of the School of Public Health at UCLA, and Stephen Shortell, Dean of the School of Public Health at UC Berkeley. He also recognized Associate Vice President Nation, who helped develop the presentation.

Dr. Rosenstock told the Regents that graduates of the School of Public Health at UCLA graduates initially earn an average of \$45,000 a year and leave school with a debt load of \$40,000. The School itself leverages very effectively the critical core resources that are provided to it from State funding, paying salaries for 65 faculty; other faculty are earning their salaries through grants and contracts. Dr. Rosenstock noted that one measure of the quality of UCLA's School of Public Health is that, despite its relatively small size,

15 members of the faculty have been elected to the Institute of Medicine.

Dr. Rosenstock stated that the UCLA School of Public Health is very productive, doing cutting-edge research. This past year, the School generated nearly \$1 million per faculty member in grants. Only 12 percent of the operating budget for last year was from State sources; as a result, the School is continuously looking for diverse funding sources for its many activities.

The UCLA School of Public Health is deeply involved in both the local and global community. Dr. Rosenstock showed a global map pinpointing the many locations associated with the School of Public Health, including community-based organizations, faith-based centers, and other locales where UC faculty are trying to address significant health disparities. Dr. Antronette Yancey, of the Center for Health Equity in Los Angeles, has partnered with the San Diego Padres baseball team in an activity called FriarFit; every Sunday, under her direction, adults and children are invited to participate in active research to improve fitness, decrease obesity, and improve health. This program is particularly targeted at underrepresented minority adolescents. Much further afield, Professor Anne Rimoin has been working in the Congo, in some of the harshest working conditions, to study the endemic nature of monkeypox. Dr. Rosenstock remarked that there are global implications to understanding how diseases such as monkeypox evolve and are transmitted in a community.

Dr. Rosenstock discussed the High Speed, High Volume Laboratory Network for Infectious Diseases, also referred to as the Global Bio Lab. This one-of-a-kind laboratory is able to take exceedingly large amounts of infectious disease materials, measure them quickly and comprehensively, and derive important information from them. Significant funding has been directed to the laboratory for the last few years; in addition to Congressional support, the State contributed \$9 million to increase its capacity so that it could provide specific services to California. The laboratory is working to leverage State and national resources with private investment. Dr. Rosenstock showed a video clip of former President Clinton endorsing the laboratory.

Dr. Rosenstock informed the Regents that the public health faculty have research, teaching, and service collaborations in more than 50 countries in the world. Interest in public health is increasing nationally and internationally, and faculty often bring their students to the sites for global field experience. In addition, roughly 15 percent of UCLA's School of Public Health students come from outside the U.S., and the School encourages them to return to their home countries in order to build public health capacity internationally. Dr. Rosenstock expressed pride in the accomplishments of the School of Public Health graduates, noting that one is the current Premier of Bermuda, and many others are directors of major health centers worldwide.

Dr. Rosenstock observed that the Association of Schools of Public Health, which represents the 43 accredited schools of public health in the country, recently released an estimate of the number of public health professionals that will be needed in the near future. This estimate, which does not include the projected large retirement wave

anticipated in the field, suggests there will be a shortage of 250,000 highly skilled public health professionals by 2020. Based on this figure, the schools would have to increase their national capacity three-fold. California will experience a shortage of almost 30,000 health professionals by 2020. Dr. Rosenstock recalled that UC had convened an advisory council for future growth in the health professions, co-chaired by Regent Lansing and former Provost Hume, which recommended that five of the University's health professions should grow; the field that was projected to have the greatest need both in absolute and proportionate numbers was public health. The advisory council also recommended that the Schools of Public Health plan a 2.8-fold increase in their master's degree capacity and doctoral enrollment by 2020.

Dr. Rosenstock cautioned that, even if the schools of public health at UCLA and Berkeley were to double their enrollment, they would still fall short of meeting the projected need. She encouraged consideration of the Davis and Irvine campuses for schools of public health. She noted that UCLA and Berkeley would currently be trying to address this critical shortage, but the economic crisis stopped the planned doubling of enrollment. Dr. Rosenstock remarked that student applications to medical school have been relatively flat, experiencing only a three percent growth in the past 12 years; in contrast, applications to schools of public health have increased 75 percent over the same period. UCLA alone had a 50 percent increase in applications for its public health program. Dr. Rosenstock remarked that both UCLA and Berkeley are turning away some of the most talented student applicants due to lack of capacity.

Mr. Shortell said that his comments would build on Dr. Rosenstock's and would highlight the challenges the schools of public health face and the need for creative ways to address those problems. He remarked that the issues the schools of public health face are highly interdependent on many outside factors, and that the schools will need to train many different kinds of individuals to address the myriad challenges that exist.

Mr. Shortell informed the Regents that the Berkeley and Los Angeles programs work with all the other health science schools throughout the system, offering joint degrees in medicine and public health. He noted that Berkeley also has a program with Stanford University; because it does not have a school of public health, Stanford sends Berkeley five students a year, for which the campus is compensated.

Mr. Shortell provided the Regents with two concrete examples of how the UC Berkeley School of Public Health serves the state. The first focused on the challenge of obesity. Mr. Shortell observed that 56 percent of the adult population in California is overweight or obese, as are 30 percent of the children. This problem disproportionately affects African American and Hispanic populations in children. The cost to the state for issues related to obesity is \$21 billion; the charges will become larger in the future as these children age and get heart disease, diabetes, and other related conditions. Mr. Shortell stated that Berkeley received a \$10 million pledge from the Atkins Foundation, which the College of Natural Resources and the School of Public Health used to create the Atkins Center for Weight and Health. The Center, along with others, did the background research and provided the basis for one of Governor Schwarzenegger's proposals to

remove sodas from schools. Mr. Shortell said that the Center is pursuing ongoing work in this area, including an evaluation of Kaiser Permanente's program, Healthy Eating Active Living, and other similar programs statewide and nationally.

Mr. Shortell's second example of service to the state was a cooperative effort between UCLA and the California Department of Managed Health Care. This collaboration, called the Right Care Initiative, engages statewide medical groups and health plans in efforts to reduce patient blood sugar levels and lipid levels, and to address issues related to blood pressure control, diabetes, and congestive heart failure. Along with this, is a major movement to reduce hospital-acquired infections. He noted that the Schools of Public Health are working with all the other hospitals in the state to drive down these infections with the help of grant funding.

Mr. Shortell informed the Regents that the Berkeley School of Public Health has initiated a series of public health roundtables which bring together stakeholders from many areas: the Department of Health, the education community, and representatives from agriculture and transportation. This roundtable, hosted at Berkeley, is working to develop state-based objectives for the Healthy People 2020 program. He noted that there will be national objectives, but this roundtable will tailor them to California's challenges, with particular focus on the underlying physical and social determinants of health. The Berkeley School of Public Health also has been involved with the Health Initiative of the Americas, which has existed for about ten years. Together, extensive research has been conducted into migration and health, and an innovative bi-national Mexico/California health insurance plan was developed that will cover to people travelling from both Mexico to California and the reverse. Mr. Shortell stated that the School is also very much involved in the national health reform efforts, and that he, personally, has been working with the Obama administration on issues related to cost and the needs and challenges particular to California.

Mr. Shortell then showed a short video featuring School of Public Health faculty, students, and alumni entitled "Healthier Lives in a Safer World."

Faculty Representative Simmons asked Dr. Rosenstock to what level the Global Bio Lab is certified. Dr. Rosenstock said that it will be certified as a Biosafety Level Three Enhanced facility, which is a fairly complex level of certification, and which will allow scientists to study both animal and human pathogens. Mr. Simmons asked if the campus has a program in place to address community concerns about the laboratory. Dr. Rosenstock said that the community had been involved since the original plans for the laboratory and that communication has been handled well. At this time, UCLA is trying to emphasize the safeguards that are in place as well as the advantages to the community in having a facility of this kind nearby.

Mr. Simmons then asked both deans if they think the UC system would be better served by forming new schools of public health, or if it should expand the existing schools. Dr. Rosenstock stated that the need is so great that the current schools alone cannot address it. She pointed out that there would be an immediate advantage to use the current

infrastructure to double enrollment rather than to start a new school. However, she said, there will be growing need for the field as it becomes more complex, and she welcomed the prospect of other schools coming online. Mr. Shortell said that he agreed with Dr. Rosenstock that the University would be able to quickly expand at the current locations, but that it will also need additional schools. He indicated that enrollment growth in all the other schools of public health in the country had been mushrooming over the past decade; the only two schools of public health that have had almost no enrollment growth are UCLA and Berkeley. He noted that Berkeley has been able to add some enrollment through a partnership with the private sector; Kaiser Permanente contributed a \$5 million endowment to add 15-20 new students each year from underrepresented communities.

Mr. Simmons stated that he was curious regarding the proportion of master's and doctoral degree students in their schools. Dr. Rosenstock indicated that the UCLA School of Public Health student body was roughly 30 to 40 percent doctoral students, and Mr. Shortell said the percentage at Berkeley was about one-third.

Regent Bernal noted that the budget figures did not indicate the percentage of student fees that is provided to the schools. Dr. Rosenstock said that amount is folded into the overall State allocation of 12 percent, or less than \$1 million a year. Regent Bernal expressed concern regarding recent graduates' debt load compared to the presumably small incomes they can expect when entering a career in public health. Regent Bernal asked if the deans had seen any adverse effect on student access at their schools because of the recent professional degree fee increase of 30 percent. Mr. Shortell said that Berkeley's figures are somewhat different than UCLA's in terms of the job market. The average starting salary for Berkeley graduates last year was \$63,000 and the debt load was \$29,000. He said access had not been an issue at the Berkeley campus. The campus returns most of the professional degree fee directly to students, with particular focus on diversity goals.

Regent Ruiz expressed his concern that the University may have lost traction in its work to open two new medical schools at Riverside and Merced. He noted that, in light of the forecasted shortage of public health professionals, UC should devote some thought as to how those schools can be built despite the economic crisis. Dr. Stobo indicated that the University is trying to move forward, albeit under a less active and aggressive schedule. He informed the Regents that Riverside just hired a dean for the School of Medicine, and that Merced was moving forward on two fronts, one being the development of an undergraduate program with a health care major, and the other being a potential branch campus in conjunction with the UC Davis School of Medicine.

Regent Lansing congratulated the deans on an excellent presentation, and thanked them for the important work that they do.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff