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

January 20, 2011

The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at Price Center, San Diego campus.

Members present: Regents Blum, Cheng, Crane, DeFreece, De La Peña, Gould, Hime,

Island, Kieffer, Lansing, Lozano, Makarechian, Marcus, Newsom, Pattiz,

Ruiz, Varner, Yudof, and Zettel

In attendance: Regents-designate Hallett, Mireles, and Pelliccioni, Faculty

Representatives Anderson 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 Dooley, Vice Presidents Darling and Sakaki, Chancellors Block, Blumenthal, Desmond-Hellmann, Drake, Fox, Kang, Katehi, White, and

Yang, and Recording Secretary Johns

The meeting convened at 8:40 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. Ms. Tierra Moore, a student at UCLA, urged the Regents to support holistic review in the admissions process. She noted that she experienced family hardships during her high school years which had a negative effect on her grade point average, but that she had been able to explain her circumstances in the holistic admissions process. She stressed that holistic review results in a varied student body and has a positive influence on residential life and campus climate.
- 2. Ms. Leila Beckwith, a UCLA professor emerita, expressed concern about anti-Semitic incidents at UC. She stated that the University administration applies a double standard in its response to such incidents, that bigotry against Jews is often not recognized, and that there is a hostile environment for Jewish students at UC.
- 3. Ms. Natalie Katz, a recent UCSD graduate and former student leader of the Jewish community on campus, stated that the University administration took action regarding intolerance toward African American and Native American students but was indifferent to intimidation of Jewish students, who feel unsafe and uncomfortable on campus. She asked that the administration acknowledge and address this issue.

- 4. Mr. Jared Muscat, a UCSD student and representative of the California Student Sustainability Coalition (CSSC), criticized the University for lack of progress in waste management. He expressed disappointment that a student proposal for a sustainable food project at UC San Diego had not been funded.
- 5. Ms. Allison Platt noted that this was her second year as an undergraduate at UCSD and that she had already experienced a more than 40 percent increase in fees, or \$4,000 more per year. Parents' plans for their children's college education, developed over years, can be derailed by such increases. Many underprivileged and minority students are unable to attend UC. She urged the administration to listen to the concerns of students and campus workers.
- 6. Mr. Andrew Buselt, a UCSD student and CSSC member, quoted from a student's letter to the Regents about sustainability practices at UC Santa Barbara, including a renewable energy initiative and a "trayless" policy in the dining commons which has resulted in lower consumption, with savings reinvested in more sustainable food products. He asked the Regents to be creative, fair, and conscientious in their decision-making.
- 7. Ms. Anne Le, a UCSD student and CSSC member, noted that many sustainability projects at UCSD are student-initiated. This year students are working on a bottled water ban, phasing out styrofoam, and electronic waste collection, projects which could be expanded systemwide toward the goal of zero waste by 2020. She expressed concern about student access, UC affordability, racism, and a rise in misogynistic graffiti on campus.
- 8. Mr. Chad Houghton, a UCSD student, expressed concern about budget transparency. He asked why the revenue from UC auxiliary enterprises, such as UC bookstore sales and sales of UC apparel, is restricted and not used for core academic funding. He asked how this revenue was allocated. He asked why UC funding to the campuses, on a per student basis, is not divided equally among the campuses. He asked what the true cost of a UC undergraduate education is.
- 9. Ms. Elizabeth Elman, a UCSD undergraduate, stated that she was a Jewish student and that some students confuse anti-Semitism with political discourse. UCSD is an active political campus where students learn to become world citizens. She noted that she has founded a Jewish student organization which advocates peace and criticizes human rights abuses; it is not anti-Semitic. She hoped that similar organizations would be respected at other UC campuses.
- 10. Speaking on behalf of Ms. Wafa Ben Hassine, an unidentified woman stated that education is a right, not a privilege, and that everyone should have access to it.
- 11. Mr. Sean Starr, an employee at UCSD Medical Center for over ten years, expressed concern about increases in retirement benefits for UC executives while there are increased costs to UC workers for their retirement benefits and health care benefits. He

asked that the University carefully consider executive decisions which take money from workers.

- 12. Ms. Patricia Wilson, a representative of the University Community Planning Group, an elected group of residents and businesspeople who advise the San Diego City Council on land use issues, expressed the Planning Group's dissatisfaction with UCSD statements regarding mitigation in the East Campus Bed Tower Environmental Impact Report. The Planning Group wished to meet with Chancellor Fox to discuss improved fire and paramedic protection for the campus and the community, and mitigation for existing and future traffic congestion, which includes the campus' contribution to maintaining roads.
- 13. Mr. Bill Griswold, a UC retiree, recalled that UC employees were given the option in 1976 of not joining Social Security and Medicare, relying instead on UC's retirement and health benefit plans. The employees who opted out of these federal programs saved the University many millions of dollars in payroll taxes. Mr. Griswold stated that the University did not implement a reasonable actuarial policy and did not set aside sufficient funding to pay these benefits. Promises made to employees regarding retiree health benefits should be honored.
- 14. Mr. Victor Flores-Osorio, a UCSD student and campus-wide senator of the Associated Students of UCSD, advocated provision of financial aid to undocumented students. Undocumented students pay into UC's financial aid system but do not receive financial aid. He urged the Regents to support passage of the California Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act.
- 15. Mr. Anthony Peña, a UCSD student, expressed concern about the effect of UC fee increases over the past year on low-income and middle-income students. Some students are forced to drop out of UC. Addressing the Board in Spanish, he decried greed in the University.
- 16. Mr. Richard Thompson extolled Free Speech Movement leader Mario Savio and criticized former UCSD Chancellor Herbert York and former director of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography Roger Revelle. He asked the Regents to rename Revelle College and York Hall on the San Diego campus.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff