The Regents of the University of California

COMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE PLANNING
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY
March 17, 2011

The Committees on Long Range Planning and Educational Policy met jointly on the above date at UCSF–Mission Bay Community Center, San Francisco.

Members present: Representing the Committee on Long Range Planning: Regents Reiss and Schilling; Ex officio members Gould and Yudof; Advisory members Hallett, Mireles, and Simmons; Staff Advisors Herbert and Martinez

Representing the Committee on Educational Policy: Regents Island, Johnson, Lansing, and Reiss; Ex officio members Gould, Yudof, and Zettel; Advisory members Hallett, Mireles, and Simmons; Staff Advisors Herbert and Martinez

In attendance: Regents Crane, De La Peña, Hime, Makarechian, Ruiz, and Varner, Regent-designate Pelliccioni, Faculty Advisor Anderson, 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 Presidents Dooley and Stobo, Vice Presidents Beckwith, Darling, Lenz, and Sakaki, Chancellors Block, Blumenthal, Desmond-Hellmann, Drake, Fox, Kang, Katehi, White, and Yang, and Recording Secretary McCarthy

The meeting convened at 11:10 a.m. with Committee on Educational Policy Chair Island presiding.

ANNUAL ACCOUNTABILITY SUB-REPORT ON THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ADMISSIONS AND ENROLLMENTS

[Background material was mailed to Regents in advance of the meeting, and a copy is on file in the Office of the Secretary and Chief of Staff.]

Provost Pitts stated that the presentation would focus on a portion of the Accountability Sub-Report regarding admission of underrepresented minority students. Vice President Sakaki informed the Committee that this report is one of several updates on admissions presented to the Regents through the year; the following month the Regents would receive preliminary data on fall 2011 admissions, and in July Ms. Sakaki would present a report on the incoming freshman and transfer classes.

Ms. Sakaki reported that, over the past decade, the University has experienced an increase in freshman and transfer student applications, admissions, and enrollment, with the notable exception of 2009-10 when freshman enrollment was reduced as a result of budget cuts. Interest in the University continues to increase, with a record number of applications for fall 2011, more
than 106,000 at the freshman level and more than 36,000 at the transfer level. She pointed out that, at the same time freshman enrollment was reduced in 2009-10, the President increased enrollment targets for new transfer students by 1,000 students, a target which was exceeded by the enrollment of 1,200 new transfer students that year. Ms. Sakaki anticipated a replication of that success in the upcoming fall.

Turning to the growth of enrolled underrepresented students, Ms. Sakaki reported that the diversity of both new freshmen and new transfer students has increased over the past ten years, although this growth was greater at the freshman level than at the transfer level. Over 50 percent of current California high school students are Chicano-Latino. UC has begun to see a similar trend at the transfer level, with the percentage of underrepresented groups increasing from 22 percent in fall 2009 to nearly 24 percent in fall 2010. The San Diego, Riverside, and Merced campuses experienced growth in the number of new transfer students from underrepresented groups in 2010. Ms. Sakaki stated that, while progress has been made, there remains work to do. UC will continue to work with community college partners to better prepare students from all backgrounds for UC admission.

Regent De La Peña thanked Ms. Sakaki for providing him with additional information regarding admissions. He pointed out that there is no majority ethnic population in California at the current time. In response to a question from Regent De La Peña, Ms. Sakaki stated that the term "underrepresented" is used to refer to African American, Chicano-Latino, and Native American students.

Regent Ruiz commented that the term “underrepresented” refers to an ethnic population whose proportion at the University is not representative of the proportion of that ethnic population in the state. Dr. Pitts stated that such populations would be underrepresented with respect to their proportion of high school graduates.

Regent De La Peña expressed his opinion that the term “majority” should no longer be used to refer to a California group, since there currently is no majority population in the state.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff