The Regents of the University of California

COMMITTEE ON LONG RANGE PLANNING
July 18, 2013

The Committee on Long Range Planning met on the above date at UCSF–Mission Bay Conference Center, San Francisco.

Members Present: Regents Blum, Flores, Gould, Kieffer, Reiss, and Schultz; Ex officio members Varner and Yudof; Advisory member Jacob; Staff Advisors Barton and Coyne

In attendance: Regents De La Peña, Feingold, Island, Makarechian, Newsom, Pattiz, Ruiz, and Zettel, Regents-designate Engelhorn, Clancy, and Saifuddin, Faculty Representative Powell, Associate Secretary Shaw, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Vacca, Provost Dorr, Executive Vice President Brostrom, Chief Financial Officer Taylor, Senior Vice Presidents Dooley and Stobo, Vice Presidents Beckwith, Lenz, and Sakaki, Chancellors Block, Blumenthal, Desmond-Hellmann, Dirks, Drake, Katehi, and Yang, Acting Chancellor Conoley, and Recording Secretary McCarthy

The meeting convened at 10:25 a.m. with Committee Chair Gould presiding.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of September 13, 2012 were approved.

2. ANNUAL UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

[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 Dorr presented the fifth UC Annual Accountability Report. She called attention to a number of new features included in the online version of the Report. She recalled that the Accountability Report was instituted by President Yudof for the purpose of making information about UC easily available to all interested parties, including how effectively and at what cost UC is carrying out its teaching, research, and service missions. The Report supports strategic planning and budgetary decision-making, helps ensure responsible stewardship of UC resources, and reflects UC’s commitment to be open and accountable to all Californians.

Overall, the 2013 Accountability Report found that UC continues to maintain its historic levels of access, affordability, and academic quality, with few differences from the prior year. Given the many serious challenges UC has been facing, Ms. Dorr interpreted this
fact as an indication of success. In future years the University would incorporate more goals and benchmarks in the Report. UC administrators turn to the Report regularly as a resource to understand, guide, support, and defend the University. Ms. Dorr noted that the 2012 Report was very useful to her in her role as Provost.

Following a Regent’s recommendation from the previous year, the University was seeking to make the online availability of the Report known to as many alumni, faculty, students, staff, and friends of the University as possible. A concise, attractive email announcement, or a series of such announcements over the course of the year, would be disseminated to pique interest in the Report.

Regent Makarechian referred to information in the Report on graduation rates for transfer students. These rates grew steadily for classes entering between 1994 and 2004, but had leveled off since then. He asked why this was the case. Ms. Dorr responded that rates slowed down largely because of a decline in applications from and preparation of community college students. The community colleges have faced tremendous challenges during recent budget reductions, and this is manifested in preparation for and applications to UC.

Regent Makarechian referred to a chart showing percentages of UC law school graduates who pass the California Bar Examination on their first attempt. He asked why the percentage at UC Irvine, a newly established law school, was 90 percent, higher than at the older, more established UC law schools. Regent Flores stated that this number reflected the high quality of instruction and preparation of students at the UC Irvine School of Law. Ms. Dorr observed that these Report data would be discussed by the UC law schools in order to learn and share best practices. Chancellor Drake recalled that the UCI School of Law was begun with an explicit goal of and emphasis on quality of instruction, engagement with students, and diversity. The School grew only at a rate at which it could maintain that high level of engagement. The positive number in the Report is the outcome the campus was seeking.

Regent Makarechian pointed out other information in the Report according to which fewer than five percent of staff are eligible to retire with maximum benefits. An accompanying chart showed that there were 453 such employees in the Management and Senior Professional and Senior Management Groups. He suggested that the Report include the percentage of total benefits being paid to those 453 retirees and the dollar amount of these benefits. Ms. Dorr responded that this would be taken into consideration.

Regent Island praised President Yudof for instituting the Accountability Report, which is a critical management tool. He stated that the new President would find the Report to be filled with action items and expressed the hope that she would take action with regard to Report conclusions in the area of diversity, such as low numbers of female ladder-rank faculty members and Asian Americans in UC’s administrative ranks. He praised Provost Dorr for the quality of the Report.
Regent Feingold requested data on the number of California resident applicants who are accepted and then enroll on a UC campus versus those who choose to enroll elsewhere. Ms. Dorr responded that these data are available.

Regent Feingold asked how UC determines its benchmark for faculty salaries relative to comparison institutions. Ms. Dorr responded that this benchmark is based on total compensation for the academic year. The faculty salary scales shown in a chart in the Report were in real dollars.

Regent Schultz stated that the Report would be more valuable if it resulted in actions to address issues that had been raised in the discussion. He called attention to the issue of sufficient graduate student enrolment to support faculty research; in spite of growth, the percentage of graduate students in the entire student body remains relatively low.

Chairman Varner asked the Committee to work with the Office of the President to prepare a report on the status of recommendations made by the UC Commission on the Future, on recommendations that have been accomplished or that require further action.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Attest:

Associate Secretary