

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

May 15, 2014

The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at the Sacramento Convention Center, 1400 J Street, Sacramento.

Members present: Regents Brown, De La Peña, Flores, Island, Kieffer, Lansing, Lozano, Napolitano, Pattiz, Reiss, Schultz, Sherman, Varner, and Zettel

In attendance: Regents-designate Engelhorn and Leong Clancy, Faculty Representatives Gilly and Jacob, Interim Secretary and Chief of Staff Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Vacca, Chief Financial Officer Bachher, Provost Dorr, Executive Vice President and Interim Chief Financial Officer Brostrom, Senior Vice Presidents Dooley and Stobo, Vice Presidents Allen-Diaz, Andriola, Brown, Budil, Duckett, Lenz, and Sakaki, Chancellors Blumenthal, Katehi, Leland, and Yang, Interim Chancellor Hawgood, and Recording Secretary McCarthy

The meeting convened at 8:40 a.m. with Chairman Varner presiding.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Varner 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. Avril Prakash, third-year UC San Diego transfer student, expressed concern about the State budget, noting that the Regents had advocated for increased State support for UC. She affirmed her commitment to work with the Regents to encourage the Legislature to grant UC a five percent additional increase in State funding so that the quality of a UC education can be maintained.
2. Ms. Darcie McClelland Descalzo, UC Riverside Ph.D. candidate, teaching assistant, and chair of the UC Student Association (UCSA) Graduate and Professional Committee, stated that teaching assistant / student ratios had increased from 1:60 in 2009, to 1:150 in 2010. She stated that this increased ratio has affected undergraduate students, particularly first-generation college students and students from underrepresented minority groups, because they are not getting the help they need to succeed in their classes. Quality of education must be prioritized in the budget.
3. Mr. Michael Amster, UC Santa Cruz undergraduate student, shared a legislative proposal that would provide tax credits for businesses that offer paid internships to college students. With help from Assemblymember Das Williams, an internship tax credit bill was submitted to the Legislature; UCSA passed a resolution in support of the bill and

called for its introduction in the 2015 legislative cycle. Mr. Amster urged the Regents to support the measure.

4. Ms. Tammi Rossman-Benjamin, UC faculty member and co-founder of AMCHA Initiative, expressed concern about a UCLA student group, Students for Justice in Palestine (SJP). She stated that SJP members recently launched a campaign calling for a UCSA Judicial Board investigation of UCLA Undergraduate Student Association Council (USAC) members who have taken trips to Israel sponsored by certain Jewish organizations. Ms. Rossman-Benjamin stated that SJP also had demanded that candidates for student government sign a statement pledging that they would not go on any trips to Israel sponsored by those Jewish organizations. She expressed her view that these were violations of students' rights to freedom of expression and that SJP was the only University-funded student organization whose mission targets an ethnic minority for vilification. She stated that a recent UCLA statement that resolution of this matter would be left to students was unacceptable, since it is the University's duty to stop SJP's acts interfering with students' rights. AMCHA Initiative and six other organizations have written a letter to the Regents and Chancellor Block urging swift action to protect student safety and well-being.
5. Mr. Dumisani Washington, pastor and director of the Institute for Black Solidarity with Israel, expressed disappointment with SJP's campaign to intimidate Jewish and pro-Israel students at UCLA by demanding a Judicial Board investigation of USAC members' travel to Israel. Mr. Washington stated that SJP also demanded that candidates for UCLA student government pledge to not take trips to Israel sponsored by these organizations. Mr. Washington compared these positions to past discrimination against black students. He stated that SJP did not protest student leaders' trips to Israel sponsored by groups with a different political agenda.
6. Mr. Sam Levine, speaking on behalf of the Zionist Organization of America, expressed concern about recent events at UCLA led by SJP, which had asked candidates for UCLA student government to sign a statement pledging not to go on trips to Israel sponsored by certain pro-Israel organizations, discriminating against pro-Israel students who want to run for office. He expressed his view that anti-Semitism was the last acceptable form of bigotry on college campuses. Mr. Levine stated that Jewish students should be treated with the same respect offered any other group on campus.

The meeting recessed at 8:55 a.m.

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The meeting reconvened at 10:00 a.m.

Members present: Regents Brown, De La Peña, Flores, Island, Kieffer, Lansing, Lozano, Napolitano, Pattiz, Reiss, Schultz, Sherman, Varner, and Zettel
In attendance: Regents-designate Engelhorn and Leong Clancy, Faculty Representatives Gilly and Jacob, Interim Secretary and Chief of Staff Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Vacca, Chief Financial Officer Bachher, Provost Dorr, Executive Vice President and

Interim Chief Financial Officer Brostrom, Senior Vice Presidents Dooley and Stobo, Vice Presidents Allen-Diaz, Andriola, Budil, Duckett, Lenz, and Sakaki, Chancellors Blumenthal, Drake, Katehi, Leland, and Yang, Interim Chancellor Hawgood, and Recording Secretary McCarthy

President Napolitano introduced UC Student Association (UCSA) President Kareem Aref, third-year UC Riverside student.

Mr. Aref provided updates on UCSA campaigns. Its campaign regarding improvement in professional development assistance for graduate students had been fairly successful and would continue the following year. Analysis of graduate student survey results would be provided at a future meeting and would be used to recommend programs for development. UCSA's Invest in Graduation Not Incarceration Transform Education (IGNITE) campaign supported California Senate Constitutional Statement (SCS) 5 that would increase diversity in admissions. UCSA hoped that SCS 5 would qualify for the November 2016 ballot and encouraged the Regents to support this measure. Mr. Aref reported that the California Modernization and Economic Development Act, the oil severance tax that would provide \$300 million each for UC, California State University, California Community Colleges, and K-12, had been progressing through legislative committees. Mr. Aref stated that UC Fossil Free appreciated Regent Reiss' help.

Mr. Aref commented that expansion of mental health services for students had been a priority for UCSA, particularly since the death of Maliq Nixon at UC Berkeley the past fall. He noted that funds from a grant would run out in October and UCSA looked forward to working with the Office of Student Affairs to find ways to increase student mental health services. Sufficient trained staff should be available to provide services to students when they need it.

UCSA believes that UC's policies regarding sexual assault should be uniformly implemented across the campuses.

During recent protests at UC Santa Cruz by United Auto Workers representing teaching assistants, some UCSC students were taken into police custody and have charges against them. Mr. Aref expressed UCSA's support for having those charges dropped. UCSA supports the teaching assistants and hopes that a contract can be negotiated soon.

Mr. Aref expressed UCSA's enthusiasm for the progress made through the joint Regents' and students' lobbying visits since their initiation three years ago.

Governor Brown asked whether support of an oil severance tax would conflict with the goals of Fossil Free UC. Mr. Aref responded that, since the oil industry would not disappear suddenly, it would continue to create environmental problems and imposing an oil severance tax that would fund education would be appropriate. Governor Brown pointed out that historically taxes on state oil lands in Long Beach paid significant sums for capital improvements at UC. He added that attempting to reduce demand for oil products was another way to approach environmental issues. Mr. Aref responded that Fossil Free UC advocated redirecting investment funding toward more research in sustainable transportation such as electric and hybrid cars. Governor Brown

expressed support for the goals of Fossil Free UC, although he noted that attaining that goal was challenging.

Regent Pattiz expressed support for the Governor's comments and for the concerns of Fossil Free UC. He advocated using the academic resources of the University to help solve these serious environmental problems.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Attest:

Interim Secretary and Chief of Staff