

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

March 19, 2015

The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at UCSF–Mission Bay Conference Center, San Francisco.

Members present: Regents De La Peña, Elliott, Engelhorn, Gould, Island, Kieffer, Lansing, Leong Clancy, Makarechian, Napolitano, Newsom, Ortiz Oakley, Pattiz, Pérez, Saifuddin, Sherman, Varner, and Zettel

In attendance: Regents-designate Davis and Gorman, Faculty Representatives Gilly and Hare, Secretary and Chief of Staff Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Provost Dorr, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Brostrom, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Nava, Senior Vice Presidents Henderson and Peacock, Vice Presidents Allen-Diaz, Budil, and Sakaki, Chancellors Block, Blumenthal, Gillman, Hawgood, Wilcox, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Johns

The meeting convened at 8:35 a.m. with Chairman Varner presiding.

President Napolitano apologized for an unfortunate word she had used the previous day following the public comment session. The public comment period is used to present serious matters in a serious manner. She stressed that she and Governor Brown were working hard to set a budget path for the University that would allow UC to protect accessibility, affordability, and quality in the years to come.

**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. Mr. Artemio Cardenas, a staff member at UCSF and delegate of the Council of UC Staff Assemblies (CUCSA), explained the role of CUCSA and thanked the Regents and chancellors for their efforts to make UC an excellent university and a good place to work.
2. Mr. Cormac Martinez del Rio, UC Santa Cruz student and member of Fossil Free UC, stated that the University's carbon neutrality goals are thwarted by its compliance with the wishes of fossil fuel companies. He called on UC to divest from the fossil fuel industry over a five-year period.
3. Mr. Kevin Finn, a member of Fossil Free UC, stated that divestment from the fossil fuel industry is not risky or costly. He quoted Jim Yong Kim, president of the World Bank, to the effect that screening new and existing investments for climate risk is a pragmatic step.

4. Ms. Margaux Schindler, UC Santa Cruz student and member of Fossil Free UC, stated that the purpose of divestment from fossil fuel companies is to bankrupt these companies morally as well as financially. The University should take a strong moral stance for climate solutions.
5. Mr. Alex Hill, a UC Santa Barbara student, cited a national survey reporting high rates of depression among college students. Students' mental health affects academic performance. As UC engages in institutional reform, it must address student mental health needs to ensure student success.
6. Ms. Eliana Willis, UC Santa Cruz student and member of Fossil Free UC, stated that it is not hypocritical to call for divestment from fossil fuel companies while using fossil fuels in daily life. Conversion to renewable energy sources would require political and economic will.
7. Mr. Alden Phinney, UC Santa Cruz student and member of Fossil Free UC, implored the University to divest from fossil fuel companies and to invest fully in climate solutions and in communities affected by the fuel extraction industries. He decried corporate corruption in the American political system.
8. Mr. Matthew Vannucci, UC Berkeley doctoral student and member of Fossil Free UC, stressed the importance of the University's moral character and that corporate decision-making is not appropriate at UC. He spoke in favor of a community benefits agreement with the City of Richmond and divestment from the fossil fuel industry.
9. Mr. Benjamin Ishibashi called on the University to divest from the fossil fuel industry and to sign a comprehensive community benefits agreement to ensure that existing communities benefit from the new Richmond Bay campus.
10. Ms. Rebecca Ora, graduate student at UC Santa Cruz and member of the UC Student Association (UCSA), thanked the Regents for their lobbying efforts on behalf of students, and asked them to endorse UCSA's lobbying efforts.
11. Ms. Lori Castro, Interim Assistant Vice Chancellor in Staff Human Resources at UC Santa Cruz, expressed concern about the health and well-being of staff, especially non-represented staff. As the California economy improves, UC staff turnover would increase, and many staff were expected to retire in the next decade. Pay inequity, increased workloads, and lack of up-to-date technology at UC have driven away some staff and make recruitment of new staff difficult. In salary terms, current staff with years of experience are sometimes disadvantaged compared to new hires. Employees are frustrated by the lack of defined career paths and opportunities for advancement.
12. Ms. Tammi Rossman-Benjamin expressed appreciation for University statements and resolutions by UC student government at UCLA and UC Berkeley condemning recent anti-Semitic incidents at UC. She stated that these incidents grew from anti-Israel

- Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions campaigns. She urged the University to adopt the U.S. State Department's definition of anti-Semitism.
13. Mr. David Kadosh, of the Zionist Organization of America, stated that some anti-Israel activities on UC campuses are linked to anti-Semitism and express a vicious sentiment that is not legitimate political discourse but that encourages hatred. He urged UC leaders to combat anti-Semitism.
  14. Mr. Melvin Singh, external vice president of the Associated Students, UC Santa Barbara, expressed concern that gender wage equality had not been achieved at the Santa Barbara campus. It was important that student voices be heard in discussions about the cost structure of the University being held by Governor Brown and President Napolitano.
  15. Ms. Lacy Wright, a UC Santa Barbara student, asked that the University allocate at least \$420,000 annually to create in-person consent and bystander intervention training. She asked that UC work to create a culture of consent to end rape before it occurs.
  16. Dr. Jeffrey Nelson, a student health physician at UC Berkeley, asked that UC prioritize student health services. Budget cuts have led to increased workloads and loss of qualified staff. Very little of UC Berkeley's revenue from fundraising has been directed to student health. Funding for student mental and physical health should be raised to adequate levels. Dr. Nelson suggested that donors would support this need, if they were asked to support it.
  17. Dr. Stuart Bussey, president of the Union of American Physicians and Dentists, urged the University to show that it values student health and to provide a fair contract for members of his union, who provide care at UC student health centers. He stated that the Office of the President has many funding options available. Increased resources should be directed to student health.
  18. Ms. Anke Schennink, of UAW Local 5810, spoke on behalf of the Reclaim Higher Education coalition, which is opposed to tuition increases. The University should use its revenue responsibly and transparently. The discussions about the University's operations and budget being held by Governor Brown and President Napolitano should take place in the public sphere, in an open setting, and there has been an invitation to do so by the Associated Students, UC Davis.

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff