## The Regents of the University of California

### **COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE**

January 21, 2016

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

Members Present: Regents Blum, De La Peña, Gould, Island, Kieffer, and Lansing

In attendance: Regents Davis, Elliott, Gorman, Lozano, Napolitano, Ortiz Oakley, Oved,

Pattiz, Reiss, Ruiz, Sherman, and Zettel, Regents-designate Brody, Ramirez, and Schroeder, Faculty Representatives Chalfant 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 President Duckett, Interim Vice President Tucker, Chancellors Block, Blumenthal, Gillman, Hawgood,

Wilcox, and Yang, and Recording Secretary McCarthy

The meeting convened at 10:30 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 September 17, 2015 and the joint meeting of the Committee on Governance and the Committee on Health Services of November 19, 2015 were approved.

# 2. PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A STUDENT ADVISOR POSITION TO THE BOARD OF REGENTS

Regent Oved, in consultation with Chairman Lozano and President Napolitano, recommended that a two-year pilot program be implemented to create the non-voting position of Student Advisor to the Board of Regents beginning in July 2017. The Student Advisor would be appointed for a term of one year, commencing July 1. The Student Advisor would be selected from a segment of the student population not represented by the student Regent during the same term of service. That is, if the incoming student Regent was an undergraduate, the Student Advisor would be chosen from the ranks of graduate or professional students and vice versa. The Student Advisor shall not be a member of the Board.

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

Committee Chair Gould briefly introduced this item requesting approval of a pilot program to establish a Student Advisor position to the Board of Regents. Regent Oved

stated that increasing student participation with the Board of Regents had been a priority for him and is strongly supported by UC students. He had consulted during the past year with President Napolitano, the Regents, and students in arriving at this proposal for a two-year pilot program. The Student Advisor would be selected from a segment of the student population complementary to that of the sitting student Regent. For example, if the sitting student Regent were an undergraduate, then the Student Advisor would be a graduate or professional student, with the goal of having more robust student perspectives shared at Board meetings and in interactions with Regents and the Office of the President. Regent Oved expressed his view that the addition of this position would strengthen the relationship between the Regents and UC students. He observed that this proposal has systemwide support, demonstrated by 16 resolutions of endorsement from UC undergraduate and graduate student associations, and the support of many former student Regents. He expressed appreciation to the Regents for their consideration.

Regent Pattiz expressed support for the proposal, emphasizing that the Student Advisor should consider the needs of the entire University.

Staff Advisor Acker commented on the success of the Staff Advisor position that was established 11 years prior. The Student Advisor would also be a non-voting position, but the additional student perspective would help the Regents make better-informed decisions.

Regent Reiss expressed support for the proposal, which would benefit the Board.

Regent Kieffer expressed concern about increasing the size of the Board, but noted the value of the students' perspective.

Regent De La Peña agreed with the importance of having student representation from each segment of undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, as their perspectives are unique. He suggested having the student Regent, student Regent-designate, and Student Advisor each from a different segment.

Regent-designate Ramirez expressed support for the proposal, adding that the additional student voice would add perspective, increase the Regents' connection with student leadership, and help ease the workload of the student Regent and student Regent-designate, who visit all ten UC campuses each year.

Regent Gorman expressed support for the proposal, commenting that the Student Advisor would bring an additional youthful perspective to Board meetings.

Regent Ruiz agreed on the importance of hearing students' perspectives. However, he pointed out that the Regents' responsibilities are broad, and student Regents and Advisors must be mindful of the overall functioning of the University. Regent Oved commented that as a student Regent he was made aware of the large governance and financial issues facing the University.

Regent Blum remarked that the chancellors should sit at the Board table at Regents' meetings and have more input, given their importance to the University. Committee Chair Gould responded that the Committee would examine that issue.

Regent Lansing expressed support for the proposal and agreement with Regent Blum that the chancellors should sit at the Board table during Regents' meetings.

President Napolitano commented that student Regents are helpful not only in providing their perspective to the Regents, but also in communicating the challenges faced by the Regents to students. Other student voices are also heard at Regents' meetings, including student observers to committees and the President of the UC Student Association. President Napolitano said she values her regular meetings with various student groups. While noting that the Board of Regents is already large, President Napolitano expressed support for this proposal.

Chairman Lozano noted the value student Regents bring to the University, often by leading important initiatives that would not otherwise have come to the Regents' attention. The student Regent must appreciate the Regents' broad responsibilities as fiduciaries of the University. The Regents function as a body responsible for what is ultimately best for the University, rather than representatives of their individual perspectives. It would be important to have broad representation while the Committee would consider the Regents' governance organization. She expressed support for the proposal, noting that the Regents' deliberations would be enhanced by a broader perspective.

Committee Chair Gould complimented Regent Oved on his leadership on this pilot program that would present an opportunity for the Student Advisor in conjunction with the student Regent and student Regent-designate to demonstrate how they can be a resource to help the Board make better decisions.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved Regent Oved's recommendation and voted to present it to the Board.

## 3. DATES OF REGENTS MEETINGS FOR 2017

The Chairman of the Board and the President of the University recommended that the following dates of Regents meetings for 2017 be approved.

### 2017

January 25-26 March 15-16 May 17-18 July 12-13 September 13-14 November 15-16 [Background material was provided to Regents in advance of the meeting, and a copy is on file in the Office of the Secretary and Chief of Staff.]

Committee Chair Gould briefly introduced the item.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the Chairman and the President's recommendation and voted to present it to the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff