

The Regents of the University of California

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

October 6, 2020

The Public Engagement and Development Committee met on the above date by teleconference meeting conducted in accordance with Paragraph 3 of Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20.

Members present: Regents Guber, Lansing, Leib, Mart, Muwwakkil, Ortiz Oakley, Reilly, Sherman, Stegura, and Zettel; Ex officio members Drake and Pérez; Advisory members Horwitz, Lott, and Torres; Chancellors Block, Muñoz, Wilcox, and Yang; Staff Advisor Tseng

In attendance: Secretary and Chief of Staff Shaw, Principal Counsel Auriti, Senior Vice President Holmes, and Recording Secretary Li

The meeting convened at 2:05 p.m. with Committee Chair Leib presiding.

Committee Chair Leib stated that the discussion on community college transfer, originally scheduled for an off-cycle meeting in April, would be held at the November meeting. Today's meeting, the first in a series of meetings highlighting various UC constituencies, would focus on UC alumni. There were two million living UC alumni, 75 percent of whom lived in California. He thanked Regents Stegura and Mart for their work on this meeting. He welcomed Faculty Representative Horwitz and President Drake, inviting the latter to make a few remarks.

President Drake stated that this was his first Public Engagement and Development Committee meeting. He looked forward to working closely with the Committee. He announced that UCLA Professor Andrea Ghez and UC Berkeley Professor Emeritus Reinhard Genzel were awarded half of the Nobel Prize in Physics for the discovery of a supermassive compact object at the center of the Milky Way Galaxy. They were living examples of UC's research excellence. Ms. Ghez was the fourth woman to be awarded a Nobel Prize in Physics. A total of 67 UC faculty members have been named Nobel laureates. Alumni were some of UC's most valuable advisors and advocates and were examples of how a UC education could transform a life, career, community, and the world. He was eager to learn how to better support alumni and engage them for their guidance.

**1. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Committee Chair Leib explained that the public comment period permitted members of the public an opportunity to address University-related matters. The following persons addressed the Committee concerning the items noted.

- A. Suzannah Smith, UC Berkeley student, urged the Regents to stop funding animal agriculture. UCB students investigated Seaboard Foods, a pig farm that supplied meat to UC, and found instances of animal abuse. Scientific evidence showed that animals are sentient, and humans must stop torturing them. There were allegations

of human trafficking at Seaboard Foods by the Micronesian government, as well as allegations of human trafficking at other UC suppliers. Animal agriculture was harmful to animals, humans, and the environment.

- B. Trevor Auldridge, UCSB student, spoke in opposition to the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) project on Mauna Kea. UC was advancing a racist worldview by planning and seeking money for a project to which indigenous people did not consent. The 2010 cultural impact statement on the TMT website recommended that project proponents strongly consider no further development of the observatory project and mid-level facility. The Hawaiian people should be afforded the same respect as members of the Board, who could give full, informed consent on the project. He demanded that UC divest from the TMT project.
- C. Sarah Bancroft, UC Berkeley student and Associated Students of the University of California Senator, stated that recent uprisings called attention to how racism and white supremacy were perpetuated. She called on the Board to divest from the TMT project on Mauna Kea. The project was operating without free, informed consent from Native Hawaiians and in violation of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. UC would be funding state violence in order to remove indigenous people from their land. UC students, faculty, and community members have organized and repeatedly attended Regents meetings to express their opposition to this project, which was not fully funded, has been delayed many times, and had no guarantee of completion. The project was antithetical to UC values of equity, justice, and ethical research.
- D. Sunaina Kale, UCSB graduate student, spoke in opposition to the TMT project. As a Native Hawaiian with family members who graduated from UC, she could not support an alma mater that was trying to hurt her people. Ms. Kale and her family felt embarrassed and hurt that the Regents have not listened to the 88 percent of Native Hawaiians opposed to the project despite claiming to support racial justice. She demanded that the Regents and President Drake end UC's involvement with the TMT.
- E. Diana Garcia, UCSB student, called on the University to divest from the TMT project. During the pandemic, the Regents must address the needs of black and indigenous students instead of investing in a project that did not have Native Hawaiians' consent and furthered the desecration of sacred land. UC has forced students to partake in colonization rather than uplift and respect traditional ecological knowledge. UC must prioritize indigenous sovereignty instead of investing millions of dollars in colonial and imperialist research, which was not the only way UC affected black and indigenous students. These students continued to be harassed and brutalized by UC police departments (UCPD). To truly attain diversity, equity, and inclusion, UC must divest from the TMT project and UCPD. She invited President Drake and the Board to join these movements.

- F. Michelle Santizo, UCLA Ronald Reagan Medical Center nurse and California Nurses Association (CNA) member, spoke about working conditions for healthcare workers. Over the last few months, she and her colleagues fought for proper personal protective equipment (PPE), COVID tests, and exposure information by meeting with management and taking public action. The new N95 mask policy was implemented nearly two months after the California Division of Occupational Safety and Health guidelines were released and six months after workers advocated for it. Staff wished to ensure that UC would provide N95 masks to staff at all times and would plan ahead for shortages. A COVID-19 unit and stroke unit have experienced staffing cuts while other units were understaffed. Union nurses were calling for safer staffing policies.
- G. Kim Branciforte, UCSF nurse and CNA member, spoke about State Assembly Bill (AB) 685, which Governor Newsom signed into law on September 17. AB 685 required that employees and unions be notified about a potential COVID-19 exposure, which would help workers take necessary precautions. UC opposed this bill and denied CNA access to exposure information for the past eight months. CNA hoped that UC complies fully with the new law. Nurses would continue to advocate for themselves, their families, and their patients during this pandemic and beyond.
- H. Grace Chang, UC Berkeley alumna and UCSB faculty member, spoke in opposition to the TMT project on Mauna Kea. She and her fellow alumni have continued to be social and environmental justice organizers. In order to engage diverse alumni, UC must advance projects that align with their values. The TMT project did not align with the values of social, racial, and environmental justice, sovereignty, and opposition to police violence of these alumni or the values of subsequent alumni. This project was forced on Native Hawaiian people. She called on the Regents and President Drake to lead UC out of this project. Alumni wished to work alongside the University in this struggle instead of in opposition to UC.
- I. Hesham Jarmakani, UC Berkeley student, criticized Regent Blum for writing letters of recommendation for students seeking UC admission and encouraged the public to vote for Proposition 16 to make UC equitable and welcoming for all. Mr. Jarmakani alleged that President Drake was Islamophobic and anti-union because of the arrest of 11 pro-Palestinian student activists when President Drake was UC Irvine Chancellor. He and other pro-Palestinian activists felt unsafe because of harassment, death threats, and the Canary Mission website. He strongly encouraged President Drake and the Regents to condemn Canary Mission and defund UCPD.
- J. Erica Wilson, UC Berkeley student and member of the Berkeley Organization for Animal Advocacy, urged the Regents to stop funding animal agriculture, which was a key cause of the climate crisis. The radiative forcing of methane was 25 times greater than carbon dioxide, and animal agriculture was responsible for 30 percent of all methane emissions and 18 percent of all greenhouse gas emissions. Everyone

who adopts a plant-based diet would reduce the equivalent of 20 pounds of carbon dioxide per day. Factory farms pollute the water and air and lead to increased respiratory illnesses in surrounding communities. The University must end its support of animal agriculture.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of July 22, 2020 were approved, Regents Guber, Lansing, Leib, Mart, Muwwakkil, Ortiz Oakley, Reilly, Sherman, Stegura, and Zettel voting “aye” and Regent Drake abstaining.<sup>1</sup>

**3. OVERVIEW OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ALUMNI COMMUNITY AND SYSTEMWIDE ENGAGEMENT EFFORTS**

[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.]

Regent Stegura opened her remarks by noting the significance of the alumni community, especially since one of the University’s goals was producing an additional 1.2 million graduates by 2030. Alumni needed to be engaged in order to invest in UC. This Committee’s Charter included oversight and engagement with key constituents, as well as development of advocacy programs. Past alumni engagement entailed what UC needs from alumni, but value-added programming has helped alumni feel connected with UC and built a mutually beneficial relationship. Many alumni were proud of their UC affiliation and were strong ambassadors for UC, while others have not had such positive experiences. Alumni programs must be robust, targeted, and value-adding in order to regain these alumni’s trust. The Alumni Associations of the University of California (AAUC) was made up of ten campus alumni associations that convene and exchange ideas, experiences, and resources. Alumni Regents and Alumni Regents-designate also served as AAUC officers—Regent Stegura was President, Regent Mart was Vice President, Regent-designate Torres was Secretary, and Regent-designate Lott was Treasurer. Alumni Regents were provided by the State Constitution. The AAUC Bylaws set a rotation schedule among the campuses for serving as Alumni Regents, and campuses chose their Alumni Regents differently. At UC Berkeley and UCLA, the past alumni association president became the Alumni Regent. UC Davis had a competitive process among former alumni association presidents. UC Irvine and UC San Diego used an application model and a competitive selection process. UC Merced would have its first Alumni Regent-designate in 2022. The AAUC also selected an alumnus to serve on the Governor’s advisory committee on the selection of Regents. The AAUC’s strategic plan for the year included career support for alumni, a new financial wellness initiative, diverse and first-generation alumni engagement, and alumni advocacy efforts. This presentation would highlight campus and systemwide programs that unite the greater alumni community and support its career, educational, and engagement

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<sup>1</sup> Roll call vote required by the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act [Government Code §11123(b)(1)(D)] for all meetings held by teleconference.

needs. Requests for programs have come organically from the alumni, through alumni attitudinal surveys, and from the alumni association leadership.

Deanna Berg, Director of Constituent Engagement at the Office of the President (UCOP), presented alumni demographics and trends. UC had more living alumni from more diverse backgrounds than ever before. A 48 percent increase in UC alumni was expected from 2001 to 2025. UC has been enrolling more first-generation and low- to moderate-income students. As of February 2020, 62 percent of undergraduate students were African American, Latino(a), or Asian American, 40 percent were first-generation students, and 36 percent qualified for Pell Grants. To understand alumni needs and trends, the Office of Constituent Engagement considered alumni attitudinal surveys and worked with campus chief alumni officers, the AAUC, and other alumni leaders. Programs were being designed in response to alumni's desire for a sense of community, an ongoing relationship with UC, career support, and educational opportunities. Alumni were concerned about access and representation, and they looked to UC to address those issues. UC alumni trends reflected national trends.

UCOP Director of Outreach and Engagement Katrina Ward spoke about the UC Alumni Career Network, which stemmed from alumni requests for career support from campuses. In 2015, then President Napolitano convened a task force of career center directors, alumni association leaders, students, and alumni to better understand alumni career needs and how to meet them. The task force found that there was a gap in career center support. From 2015 to 2018, campuses conducted alumni attitudinal surveys, and UCOP conducted an alumni career survey. Alumni indicated an expectation that UC would offer low- to no-cost career services. Focus groups revealed that career needs were not campus-specific, and UC learned that it was duplicating efforts across the system due to a lack of information sharing. At quarterly staff summits, staff from different campuses were now sharing resources, best practices, and templates; collaborating on programming; and receiving support and professional development through an internal mentorship network. A core component of the Alumni Career Network was a monthly webinar series that helped advance alumni career development needs. Since January 2019, there have been 22 webinars that engaged an audience of over 25,000, with an additional 13,000 video views on the Alumni Career Network website. Programs were scheduled using the Pacific Time Zone because 74 percent of alumni reside in California. Topics, determined by alumni requests, career needs, and gaps in service, have included leveraging one's career network, navigating career transitions, and salary negotiation. Twenty-one percent of participants had fewer than two years of work experience, 38 percent had more than ten years of work experience, and 35 percent were first-generation college graduates. Post-event surveys indicated a 93 percent satisfaction rate, with 71 percent feeling a greater sense of connection to UC and 91 percent indicating that they were likely to participate in a future program. The Hire UC Alumni Career Fairs catered to the needs of more experienced hires. Since May 2019, there have been four career fairs, in San Francisco, Los Angeles, San Diego, and the fourth one was hosted virtually. These career fairs have served over 3,500 alumni and engaged over 200 employers, resulting in success for both alumni and employers. UC would be participating in the National Virtual Career Fair Veterans and hosting a fifth alumni career fair. UC planned to leverage the Alumni Career

network to provide financial wellness programming, such as managing finances and educational debt. According to a UCOP survey, 75 percent of respondents would be likely to participate in a financial wellness initiative offered by UC.

Regent Stegura shared that the Cal Aggie Alumni Association was recently assigned a career officer to help alumni. Career support beyond graduation was a way to engage alumni and benefited both alumni and UC. She asked if the virtual career fair was more well-attended than the in-person fairs. Ms. Ward replied that the virtual career fair had a broader range of employers and engaged about three times more participants than in-person fairs.

Regent Muwwakkil asked how these programs were marketed. Ms. Ward replied that either the campus alumni association or UCOP would message alumni quarterly about upcoming programs, and social media was also used. Programs were listed on campus events and alumni association websites, as well as at campus career centers. Regent Muwwakkil asked if UCOP used broad or targeted marketing. Ms. Ward replied that UCOP engaged in targeted marketing. Ms. Berg added that UCOP worked with alumni associations for alumni information, including geography, major, and graduation year. For example, targeted marketing was being used for an upcoming first-generation alumni event.

Staff Advisor Tseng asked whether there was targeted career development for alumni who were UC staff, especially since remote working has changed employee relationships and networking. There were, for instance, 5,000 UCLA staff who were alumni. Ms. Ward stated that 15 percent of program attendees were current staff and faculty. UCOP was marketing alumni programming monthly via the UC Network, a systemwide staff newsletter, and campus staff assemblies.

Regent Stegura asked about outreach to first-generation alumni, who might not have alumni role models, and community college transfer students, who had less time at UC than freshman admits. Ms. Ward replied that 35 percent of attendees were first-generation alumni. There was an upcoming webinar on first-generation professional development. UCOP was determining how to connect alumni communities beyond these webinars.

Regent Reilly asked for how many alumni UCOP had contact information. Ms. Berg explained that UCOP received data from campuses. An estimated 900,000 to one million alumni received UCOP emails. Regent Reilly asked what efforts were being made to reach the remaining million alumni. Ms. Berg replied that campuses were using various methods, such as campaigns and purchasing lists, to contact alumni. Senior Vice President Holmes added that email acquisition was huge effort. The current generation were digital natives who used email and social media to communicate.

Regent Reilly asked what percentage of alumni donate to their campuses. Ms. Berg offered to return to the Regents with this information. Ms. Holmes stated that it varied by campus. She added that campus giving days were hosted on social media. She could share the number of donations with the Regents. Regent Mart noted that at UC Berkeley, some ten

percent of alumni opted not to be contacted. The campus foundation and alumni association were constantly updating the alumni list.

Regent Lansing remarked that, in her experience with charities, earlier engagement was better. Recent graduates were very loyal but would grow distant over time or had student debt and could not contribute much. Seeking smaller donations in the beginning could yield much larger gifts as the donors become able to give more. She suggested starting donor campaigns with recent graduates at a low amount, such as one dollar, in order to grow a strong donor base. Ms. Holmes agreed and stated that UC tried to cultivate donors when they were still students through a class gift. Alumni also wanted continuous value from UC.

Regent Muwwakkil asked about engaging of students, especially transfer and first-generation students before they graduate. Ms. Holmes replied that this was done at the campus level. UCOP had a systemwide perspective, observing the situation during the COVID-19 pandemic and the power of having access to the systemwide alumni network. In-person alumni career events helped alumni in a local market, but virtual events had a much broader reach and it did not cost more to have more attendees at these events. Campuses shared information about their alumni association during the graduation process. Affinity groups also reached out during this time. Students were able to keep their UC email address.

Ms. Tseng agreed with Regent Lansing's suggestion. She and other campus fundraisers learned more about alumni interests to help keep them connected. Helping UC staff who were alumni with career development was crucial for retention. Ms. Tseng recently spoke to UCLA retirees, who shared that they stayed at UCLA because of mentorship and career development opportunities.

Regent Sherman asked whether alumni associations charged for membership. Regent Mart replied that some did charge for membership. Regent Sherman suggested not charging graduates for the first year or first several years of membership. Ms. Berg stated that there was a trend away from a paid model and to make everyone a member, which several campuses have done. This changes the business model but increases engagement. Regent Stegura added that charging alumni associations did so at graduated rates. Whether they charged also depended on how much campus support they received. Regent Mart noted that some associations did not receive funding from their campuses. President Drake shared that, at one university where there was automatic membership, alumni gave at a much higher rate. He underscored Regent Lansing's comments, sharing that one alumnus gave his first gift of ten dollars in 1969 and a \$10 million gift years later. Without dues, alumni associations need campus support for their infrastructure, which must be seen as a reasonable investment, and many universities around the U.S. did.

Regent Mart stated that career development and mentorship were high priorities during his time on the Cal Alumni Association board. The AAUC's involvement multiplied the effectiveness of these efforts. He encouraged Regents to speak at alumni events.

#### 4. **EMERGING ALUMNI NEEDS AND FUTURE INITIATIVES**

[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.]

Deanna Berg, Director of Constituent Engagement at the Office of the President (UCOP) stated that alumni diversity has informed approaches to engagement. Campuses were using programs, networks, and activities to support diverse and first-generation alumni, such as chapters or networks for Asian Pacific Islander, Latino(a), LGBTQ, undocumented, or first-generation alumni. Not all alumni experienced UC in the same way, and UC must align its work with alumni's unique needs. In late 2019, UCOP interviewed all the alumni associations and student affairs staff and learned that campuses were very busy expanding and supporting the chapters and networks that serve diverse alumni. Alumni associations were working with student affairs staff to recruit alumni as role models in programs. This was important for first-generation alumni, who might not have alumni role models. Alumni staff had a presence at diverse and first-generation alumni events, such as graduation ceremonies. Systemwide constituency alumni groups were forming to address their unique needs, such as culturally competent programming and advocacy for access and representation. These groups aimed to create strong pipelines for students in their communities, provide student support, address campus climate, and ensure faculty and leadership representation. UCOP was providing information to alumni groups advocating for Proposition 16. Student affairs staff and alumni associations were creating systemwide connections with peers and wished to share best practices and create shared programming. Several campuses were partnering and leveraging existing resources to create training webinars on diversity and equity and other topics. Campuses might connect with retiree centers to expand reach. UCOP was assisting student affairs staff in creating first-generation student programming and collaborating with the Alumni Associations of the University of California (AAUC) to help constituent alumni groups become officially recognized to better amplify their issues of concern through alumni networks.

Regent Stegura spoke about using the UC Advocacy Network (UCAN) to build alumni-driven advocacy in areas ranging from research funding to State and federal budgets. Campus alumni associations were varied in their advocacy structure, the level of activity, and how connected they were to governmental relations offices. Some alumni associations had policies to remain neutral. Ms. Berg stated that a mutually beneficial partnership between UC and alumni leads to advocacy. Alumni-driven advocacy yielded the greatest returns. For example, five campus alumni associations considered or passed resolutions on Proposition 16. Alumni associations have tailored budget advocacy messaging to alumni concerns. Governmental relations staff were meeting regularly with alumni staff and serving on advocacy committees. UCOP was targeting alumni when promoting UCAN. State Governmental Relations presented information on UCAN at an AAUC meeting every year. UCOP planned to offer additional webinars about advocacy in the future.



**5. INSIGHTS FROM UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA ALUMNI ASSOCIATION LEADERS**

[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.]

Regent-designate Torres shared that UC Santa Cruz Alumni Association's mentorship program focused on first-generation and community college students. He introduced the panel speakers: Regent-designate Lott, past UCLA Alumni Association President; Randell Rueda, UC Merced Alumni Association Secretary; and Kimberley Phillips Boehm, UC San Diego Alumni Association President.

Regent-designate Lott shared the work of the UCLA Alumni Association. In response to alumni requests for career support, the alumni association began considering how to serve alumni in their career journey in 2014. Since then, the alumni association created a program for alumni considering a career change, an event on women becoming executive-level managers, career fairs connecting alumni employers with alumni hires, and support for both recent and more experienced graduates. These initiatives were shared with other alumni associations through the Alumni Associations of the University of California (AAUC). At the latest systemwide career fair, more than 1,300 interviews were conducted within the first hour of the event, and many had job offers or call-back interviews. Events like this built affinity and support for UC, and it demonstrated the value of systemwide programming, without which there would be missed opportunities. Since Regent-designate Lott first served on the UCLA Alumni Association Board of Directors, UC has made great strides toward meeting alumni programming needs and desires. The UCLA Alumni Association Diversity Advisory Committee has evolved from addressing campus climate issues to a robust diversity and affinity network model to draw alumni back to campus and provide support. Alumni were interested in raising scholarship funds for diversity networks; academic support, mentoring, and career opportunities; and support in campus climate issues. These interests help connect alumni with current students. In the last year, the alumni association created the Advocacy Task Force, which partnered with UCLA Government and Community Relations, to train a group of volunteer advocates and identify a unified advocacy message. The alumni association was also working with the UC Advocacy Network (UCAN).

Mr. Rueda stated that UC Merced matched the national rates of first-generation college students. The nine older campuses have provided their support by sharing resources with UCM students and alumni. The UC Alumni Career Network has been integral to what UCM could provide its alumni, because the infrastructure at UC Merced was still developing. Last November, Mr. Rueda facilitated an Alumni Career Network webinar on career transitions that was attended by alumni from all ten campuses. Given the number of first-generation UCM students and alumni, the UC Merced Alumni Association was trying to help them feel integrated through a new task force model focused on meaningful giving, connections and mentorship, and community mobilization for local, national, and global impact. UC Merced looked forward to having its own representative serve as Alumni Regent-designate in 2022–23 and on the AAUC board in 2023–24.

Ms. Boehm stated that the UCSD career center was a part of the campus alumni office. The UCSD Alumni Association formed the Graduates of the Last Decade committee for the 39 percent of UCSD students who graduated in the last decade, between the recession and a pandemic. Thirty percent of UCSD alumni donors graduated in the last decade and were small donors, so advocacy and engagement were critical. Seventy-five percent of alumni sought career and professional development, and networking was important for first-generation alumni. The alumni association's regional clubs in the U.S., Europe, and Asia were offering more career and professional development programming. The alumni association offered networking before live events and launched virtual networking through Tritons Connect. In response to requests for mentorship opportunities, the alumni association launched small-group events with executive coaches and company leaders and promoted mentorship and other programming on Tritons Connect. Alumni were speaking to student groups. This coming year, the alumni association's Triton Leadership Conference was focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion. Alumni were advocating on behalf of students on issues such as mental health, food security, job training, and access to entrepreneurship. UCSD was one of the top campuses in the U.S. for social mobility. The alumni association was working with local government and local biotechnology companies to provide mentorship before college, internships during college, and professional development opportunities after these students graduate. Alumni were being engaged at various stages of their lives.

Regent Lansing asked whether alumni associations could advocate for ballot initiatives or candidates. Principal Counsel Auriti replied that the alumni associations, as auxiliary organizations to the University, could advocate for or against ballot initiatives but could not use UC resources such as staff, facilities, and materials. They could use their own resources. Regent Lansing stated that alumni were a great source of advocacy, and alumni groups could help Regents who choose to advocate in a personal capacity. Regent Mart stated that individual alumni associations could take positions but not the AAUC, which was staffed entirely by UC employees. Regent Stegura added that the AAUC consulted with the Office of General Counsel and was told that the AAUC could not take positions for the reason that Regent Mart stated. Individual alumni associations make their own determinations in accordance with State and federal law. Regent Lansing clarified that she was seeking factual information regarding her conduct as an individual and as a Regent, and she was not taking any position.

Committee Chair Leib asked whether alumni were allowed to speak with legislators and whether there were sufficient resources to do so. He remarked that the strategy would be effective but would require quick organizing. Director of Constituent Engagement Deanna Berg replied that her office worked with alumni associations to send alumni to Sacramento to speak to legislators on UC advocacy days and had great success. Regent-designate Torres noted that this was not that effective because advocacy days only happened once yearly. He suggested establishing relationships with individual legislators through regular teleconference meetings. More people could be engaged more quickly this way.

Committee Chair Leib suggested that Regent Zettel, Regent Pérez, and Regent-designate Torres provide their insights as former legislators to alumni and State Governmental

Relations (SGR). SGR Associate Director Meredith Turner explained that SGR relied on campus governmental relations to leverage members of the campus community, including alumni, to engage with the Legislature throughout the year. In the last several years, campuses began to hold their own UC advocacy days from January to May, which allowed campuses to meet with legislators outside of their delegations and alumni legislators. SGR worked with a smaller group of UC supporters and selectively with campuses in fast-paced situations. Committee Chair Leib suggested that SGR work with Regent-designate Torres to connect alumni with legislators. Regent Stegura shared that the next annual alumni reception with legislators would likely be held virtually. Regent-designate Torres added that teleconference software could be leveraged for mentoring as well. Regent Lansing suggested that the Committee identify, with the help of SGR and the campuses, legislators with whom Regents could virtually meet over the next year. Committee Chair Leib stated that he would work with Associate Vice President Kieran Flaherty and former legislators on this and asked for Regent Lansing's help.

Regent Reilly asked about the biggest challenges that alumni associations faced and how the Regents could help them. Ms. Boehm replied that challenges included obtaining sufficient scholarship support for students and understanding of the breadth of student needs. Some first-generation students were using their scholarship money to support their families. These were nationwide trends, and the COVID-19 pandemic emphasized students' basic needs insecurities. Mr. Rueda stated that the UC Merced alumni were engaging in direct conversation with students in order to better support them. He called on the Regents to listen to narratives from their sources. Regent-designate Lott stated that addressing food and housing insecurity for students, ensuring their academic and career support, and engaging and focusing alumni efforts were challenges. Regent Stegura stated that Regents should learn student narratives by visiting the campuses and invited Regents to attend an alumni association panel or event. Regent Mart stated that he shared what happened at Regents meetings when he attended alumni association meetings. Alumni associations would appreciate hearing from Regents. Regent Stegura relayed the impact of Regent Pérez's visit at a joint alumni association and foundation board meeting at UC Davis last February.

## **6. STATE GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS UPDATE**

[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.]

Associate Vice President Kieran Flaherty stated that the State Governmental Relations (SGR) team reviewed over 2,700 bill introductions for potential impact on the University, tracking 480 measures deemed to have significant impact on UC, taking positions on 23 measures, and helping resolve many others. SGR supported five bills that addressed issues including expanding access to healthcare, training nursing students, student homelessness, and sexual harassment. Governor Newsom signed all five bills. Assembly Constitutional Amendment 5, which the Regents endorsed, qualified as a ballot measure to repeal Proposition 209. SGR sought and received Governor Newsom's veto on a bill regarding third-party arbitration for UC medical interns and residents challenging their

termination. SGR always endeavored to achieve a resolution before requesting a veto and would continue to work with the bill author on refining the bill. The final days of the legislative session were challenged by the COVID-19 shutdowns. Anticipated Cal Grant reforms might not progress, but the Legislature advanced COVID-19–related bills such as worker’s compensation and exposure notification, as well as policing reforms. The next biennium would begin in January 2021.

Mr. Flaherty thanked the Regents for their counsel and for speaking with the legislators. Next week, President Drake would attend the UC Legislative Roundtable online and meet with legislators whose district included a UC campus or medical center. Mr. Flaherty thanked State Senators Bill Monning and Hannah-Beth Jackson, who were leaving the Legislature, for their support of UC. The prior day, the UC Advocacy Network (UCAN) hosted an election webinar featuring UCI Professor Richard Hasen and California Chief Deputy Secretary of State James Schwab, and moderated by Jen Tolentino, Deputy Director from the Los Angeles Mayor’s Office. 150 people joined UCAN as a result of the webinar. UCAN Student Ambassadors were promoting voter turnout on social media and writing UCAN communications. The applicant pool for the 2020–21 UCAN Student Ambassador program was the largest ever, yielding 122 Student Ambassadors across ten campuses. SGR worked very closely with campus governmental relations directors. UCR Governmental and Community Relations hosted a virtual surprise party for State Senator Richard Roth and Assemblymember Jose Medina for their advocacy of medical education in the Inland Empire. According to the State Budget Act of 2020, UC would receive an additional \$471 million if federal appropriating new funding is enacted by October 15, which would be a five percent increase in funding over the 2019–20 fiscal year.

Regent Stegura praised the election webinar for being very informative. Mr. Flaherty stated that Mr. Schwab commended UC’s voter turnout efforts this year.

Regent Sherman asked about the impact on the State budget if federal stimulus is passed after October 15. Mr. Flaherty replied that the Legislature was not obligated to take action in line with the State budget. SGR believed that, in January, there was a strong likelihood that the Legislature would distribute any federal funding received. If a budget is out of balance, the State is required to rebalance the budget mid-year, but this budget already included projected cuts.

Mr. Flaherty remarked that UC had a positive trajectory in Sacramento. Legislators and the Newsom administration have come to support UC in recent years. He was grateful to former President Napolitano and President Drake for their efforts.

## **7. FEDERAL ISSUES UPDATE**

[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 Leib asked how the Trump administration’s announcement that federal stimulus would be handled after the general election affected UC’s chances of receiving

additional State funding. Associate Vice President Chris Harrington replied that Federal Governmental Relations (FGR) was disappointed in this announcement. Democrats and Republicans in close Congressional races expressed their concerns to President Trump. Because of the financial impact to major industries, childcare, and State and local funding, there was mounting pressure behind the scenes to convince President Trump and U.S. Secretary of the Treasury Steven Mnuchin to resume funding talks.

President Drake asked what the Trump Administration would gain from taking such an unpopular position. Mr. Harrington replied that President Trump wanted the U.S. Senate to focus on the U.S. Supreme Court nomination. There was a very narrow window of time to complete the nomination procedure prior to a presidential election. There was a special election in Arizona that could affect these issues. According to reports, President Trump's campaign advisors and others in the administration were surprised by his announcement. Committee Chair Leib remarked that President Trump has changed his mind quickly in the past. Mr. Harrington added that Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi was receptive to UC issues, concerns, and needs. Her negotiating strategy was waiting for President Trump to return to negotiations.

Regent Muwwakkil asked if UC support was assumed with a Democratic president. Mr. Harrington replied that there were good indicators. Democrats have been committed to passing another federal stimulus. President Trump wished to return to this issue after the election. Market reactions and unemployment would drive these issues. The House of Representatives passed funding packages that included State and local funds, with strong support for higher education. UC already received about \$270 million in federal funding for campuses and about \$500 million for the medical centers, as well as nearly \$1 billion in Medicaid loans. FGR remained optimistic about a federal stimulus bill passing.

Mr. Harrington stated that a continuing resolution was passed, thereby avoiding a federal government shutdown and keeping the government operational through December 11, during which FGR would continue to advocate for UC priorities.

Committee Chair Leib spoke about creating targeted groups of Regents and chancellors who would speak to legislators. A discussion on community college transfer experience, particularly in the Inland Empire, was being planned for the November meeting. He and Regent Stegura were also planning agendas for future meetings of the Committee.

President Drake stated that hearing from alumni helped the University tremendously. He expressed his excitement for UC's newest Nobel laureates, an illustration of the fruits of UC's long-term investment in its future.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff