

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

October 17, 2001

The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at UCSF-Laurel Heights, San Francisco.

Present: Regents Atkinson, Connerly, Davies, T. Davis, Hopkinson, O. Johnson, S. Johnson, Lansing, Lee, Lozano, Marcus, Montoya, Moores, Morrison, Pattiz, Preuss, Sayles, and Seymour

In attendance: Regents-designate Sainick and Terrazas, Faculty Representatives Binion and Viswanathan, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Holst, Provost King, Senior Vice Presidents Darling and Mullinix, Vice Presidents Broome, Gómez, Gurtner, and Hershman, Chancellors Berdahl, Bishop, Carnesale, Dynes, Greenwood, Orbach, Tomlinson-Keasey, Vanderhoef, and Yang, Vice Chancellor Brase representing Chancellor Cicerone, and Recording Secretary Nietfeld

The meeting convened at 9:05 a.m. with Chairman S. Johnson presiding.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Chairman Johnson explained that the Board had been convened as a Committee of the Whole in order to permit comment pertaining to issues on the day's open session agendas, on University-related issues that are not on this month's agenda, and on today's visit to the San Francisco campus. The following persons addressed the Board concerning *Committee on Educational Policy, Item 303: Report on Comprehensive Review in Undergraduate Admissions*.

- A. Mr. David Benjamin, owner of the private tutoring company Ahead of the Class, spoke also on behalf Ms. Heather Shagnon and Mr. Tom Woods. He reported on the formation of a new coalition, Students First in California, which was organized in response to the proposal for comprehensive review in admissions. He recalled that The Regents had undertaken several innovations with respect to admissions over the past several years and noted that further changes were being proposed, including the substitution of five SAT IIs for the SAT I. Mr. Benjamin stressed that the SAT I verbal portion of the test was valuable because it tests reading comprehension, which the SAT II does not. A second issue is the fact that native speakers of foreign languages outperform other students on the language SAT II, which is particularly disadvantageous to African-American students. Mr. Benjamin has proposed the creation of a new SAT to the College Board; he asked The Regents to support his proposal.

- B. Mr. Hoku Jeffrey, an ASUC senator at the Berkeley campus and a member of the Coalition to Defend Affirmative Action By Any Means Necessary (BAMN), suggested that the use of comprehensive review in admissions would be an important step in reversing the results of the 1995 ban on affirmative action.
- C. Mr. Ronald Cruz, a member of BAMN, reported that organization's support for the proposal to eliminate the use of the SAT I in admissions.
- D. Mr. Luke Massie, a member of BAMN, believed that The Regents should undo the harm that was caused by the ban on affirmative action.

The following persons addressed University-related issues not on this month's agenda:

- E. Mr. Joseph Forney, Coordinator of the Disabled Veterans Business Network in Los Angeles, recalled that legislation passed in 1989 mandates a three percent procurement goal with service-disabled veterans. This goal has never been obtained by the University of California system. Governor Davis recently signed an Executive Order seeking compliance with the goal by all State agencies. He urged the Regents and the Office of the President to investigate ways in which to meet the needs of disabled veterans.
- F. Mr. Clayton Smith of Associated Builders and Contractors reported that a majority of contractors in the Central Valley are concerned that they will be locked out of opportunities to participate in the construction of UC Merced because of a proposed project labor agreement for the new campus. He noted that the vast proportion of construction in California is successfully completed without a project labor agreement and drew attention to the cost overrides involved with the construction of a new terminal at San Francisco International Airport. The City of Fresno has banned PLAs on all City-funded construction. Mr. Smith reported that his association would propose an agreement that would be fair and balanced and would represent a chance to include local contractors in the process.
- G. Mr. Eric Christen of the Coalition for Fair Employment in Construction spoke in opposition to project labor agreements on the basis of the requirements that all workers must pay into union health, welfare, and pension plans and must come from union apprenticeship programs.
- H. Mr. Steve Friar of the Southern California Coalition for Fair Employment spoke in opposition to the use of a project labor agreement for the Merced campus, believing that PLAs discriminate against an individual's right to choose whether or not to belong to a labor union. He reported that the State of Ohio had recently banned PLAs.

Chairman Johnson introduced two newly appointed Regents, Mr. Norman Pattiz, the CEO of Westwood One, and Ms. Mónica Lozano, the COO of the newspaper La Opinión, and Mr. Alfredo Terrazas, who began serving as a Regent-designate on July 1 in his capacity as the Treasurer of the University of California Alumni Associations.

2. **REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT**

The President reported that the University had responded to the tragic events of September 11 quickly and generously. All UC campuses remained open and offered counseling and other kinds of support to students, faculty, and staff. Memorial services for the victims were held throughout the University; 12,000 people participated in the September 18 service on the Berkeley campus, one of the largest gatherings in its history. In the weeks since the attack, the campuses and laboratories have organized blood drives and relief efforts, created a Web site to help families and friends learn whether their loved ones were safe, and offered the expertise of faculty and researchers.

The University administration has taken a series of steps to ensure that the University community is safe. Every UC campus, laboratory, and medical center has taken protective measures and placed its security forces on high alert. The chancellors and laboratory directors have been asked to identify chemical and biological materials that might present a special opportunity for terrorists; such materials have always been stringently controlled, and now they must be guarded with even greater care.

The University has been working closely with the Governor's Office in its response to terrorism. The President reported that he had provided the Governor with a list of individuals who might participate in commissions being formed to address security and terrorism. He also reported to the Governor on the University's capacity to respond to issues in this area. Topics that relate to the University's special capacities include water supply, homeland security, biological agents and weapons, critical infrastructure protection, nuclear security, cybersecurity, telecommunications, and disaster response.

President Atkinson reported Professor George Akerlof of the Berkeley campus had been awarded the Nobel Prize in economic sciences. The State of California has the largest concentration of Nobel Laureates in the world, and UC has more than any other university.

Turning to the day's agenda, the President mentioned two topics the Regents would be asked to consider. The Board on Admissions and Relations with Schools and the Academic Council have endorsed a proposal for a comprehensive admissions review process. The proposal must still be approved by the Representative Assembly of the Academic Senate, which meets at the end of this month. If the Assembly ratifies the proposal, it will come to

The Regents for consideration in November. In order to address Regents' questions about comprehensive review, the Berkeley, Los Angeles, and Irvine campuses have invited members of the Board to attend sessions in order to observe first hand how the process works.

The other major topic for today's meeting is the University's budget. The year 2002 will be a difficult budget year, as State revenues are down dramatically, and the impact of September 11 on the California economy is still unclear. Most forecasts predict an economic upturn in California as early as the latter part of 2002; nevertheless, the budget situation for the coming year is critical. Indeed, Governor Davis has asked all State-funded programs to consider options for cuts of up to 15 percent. Vice President Hershman will report on the proposed 2002-03 budget and some alternatives for addressing budgetary shortfalls. As these alternatives are considered, the highest priority will be to maintain the quality of the University. The budget discussions will continue at the November Regents meeting.

President Atkinson noted that Professor Chand Viswanathan begins his new role as chair of the Academic Council. The new vice chair of the Council, Professor Gayle Binion of UC Santa Barbara, is also in attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

Attest:

Associate Secretary