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

November 13, 2007

The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at Covel Commons, Los Angeles Campus

Members present: Regents Allen, Bugay, Hopkinson, Johnson, Kozberg, Ruiz, and Schilling

In attendance: Regents-designate Scorza and Shewmake, Faculty Representatives Brown and Croughan, Secretary and Chief of Staff Griffiths, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Provost Hume, Executive Vice President Lapp, Chancellor Blumenthal, and Recording Secretary Johns

The meeting convened at 10:30 a.m. with Regent Kozberg presiding.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Regent Kozberg 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. Regent Kozberg announced that Ms. Beth Krom, Mayor of the City of Irvine, had planned to speak during the public comment session but was unable to attend. The following persons addressed the Board concerning the items noted.

A. Mr. Danny Morales, UCR alumnus and representative of the Chicano Latino Advisory Committee to the UCR Chancellor, quoted a UCR mission statement emphasizing faculty diversity as one of UCR's goals. He then presented part of the Advisory Committee's mission statement. He discussed the definition of diversity.

B. Ms. Yajaira Tiscareño, a student at Riverside Community College, informed the Regents that she was speaking on behalf of UCR undergraduate and prospective graduate student Daniel Polk. She quoted Mr. Polk's October 24 statement at a UCR press conference regarding the importance of faculty mentors for graduate students and the need for faculty who can prepare graduate students for an increasingly competitive, global and diverse workforce.

C. Ms. Helen Pettiford, a doctoral candidate in the Graduate School of Education at UCR, alleged that there is a hostile climate for people of color in the school. Ms. Pettiford stated that the program at the UCR GSOE does not currently reflect UCR's designation as a Hispanic-serving institution, but should do so. She cited racist and sexist comments made to students and faculty, and a lack of diversity, as contributing to a climate of intolerance.

D. Barbara Flores, professor of education at CSU San Bernardino, Co-chair of the Inland Empire Latino Coalition Education Task Force, and President of the National Association for Bilingual Education, recalled the Regents' September 2007 vote on diversity as a policy for the University. She presented a desired goal for faculty diversity within the UC graduate education programs, especially the UCR Graduate School of Education (seven Latino faculty, with four senior tenured professors among them, the others at the associate or assistant rank), and urged UC funding to support five-to-ten-year educational research agendas responding to regional needs. Ms. Flores stressed the need for concrete action rather than empty statements.

E. Mr. Michael Brotzen, a member of the State Employees Trades Council (SETC) – United, UCLA, urged voluntary implementation of SB 190 before it goes into effect on January 1, 2008, asking the Regents to open their closed sessions regarding executive compensation to the public now. He stated that UC should lead by example, and that the desired action would improve the image of the UC system.

F. Mr. Mitch McConnell, an SETC member and nineteen-year UC employee, also requested that the Regents immediately open their closed session meetings on compensation to ensure appropriate checks and balances. He believed that this is not an unreasonable request and cited the impact that the Regents' decisions have on UC workers and their children. He thanked State Senator Yee for authoring SB 190.

G. Ms. Rita Kern, UCLA Staff Research Associate, urged the Regents to implement SB 190 immediately, ahead of schedule. She stated that the University, as a public institution, should set a historic precedent in this matter, opening closed session meetings on executive compensation. Ms. Kern emphasized that UC monies should be used primarily for education and affirmed UC's identity as a public, taxpayer-funded university.

H. Ms. Arundathi Gururajan, a third-year UCSD undergraduate, urged the Regents not to raise student tuition. She cited the significant increases in UC student fees over the history of UC and noted that many students are now forced to work several jobs to help pay for their education or even leave the university. Ms. Gururajan stressed the unfairness of this situation and asked that UC request funds from the State to avoid student fee increases.

I. Clifford Brunk, UCLA professor and former systemwide Academic Senate Chair, cited allegations of harassment made against him. Mr. Brunk alleged that then Acting Provost Hume violated his rights and interfered with the performance of his duties, actions which led to his removal as Chair. He noted the outcome of his grievance with UCLA against the Acting Provost and asked the Regents to reimburse him for his legal fees. General Counsel Robinson stated that the matter

is subject to an ongoing proceeding and that it would be inappropriate for Provost Hume or the Office of the President to respond at this time.

J. Mr. Matt Corrales, UC Student Association (UCSA) representative and UCSC graduate student, expressed concern about the rising cost of tuition and the burden of debt borne by students after graduation. He urged UC to consider a fee freeze and to pressure the State government for funding to avoid a fee increase.

K. Mr. Victor Vincent, UCLA employee and American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) member, urged UC to implement SB 190 immediately and to make the Regents' discussions on compensation open to the public. He stated that Regents' decisions were responsible for the low wages and poverty of many UC workers, and that these decisions make recruitment and retention of UC medical staff difficult, endangering the quality of patient care.

L. Mr. Aaron Magpali, AFSCME member and UCLA employee, demanded that Regents' meetings on compensation be made open to the public. He emphasized that the Regents are accountable for their decisions and UC's status as a public university.

M. Ms. Dianne Tanjuaquio, a UCLA student and Internal Vice President of the UCLA Undergraduate Students Association, expressed concern about rising tuition that forces many students to take out loans. She noted that she works twenty hours a week and wonders where her tuition money is going. Ms. Tanjuaquio urged immediate implementation of SB 190, for transparency in UC compensation matters.

N. Mr. David Morihiro, an undergraduate senior at UCLA, noted an increase of over 85 percent in student fees over the last six years, increasing student debt, the prohibitive cost of a UC education for many students, and the low wages of many UC workers. He urged immediate implementation of SB 190, stating that students deserve transparency in matters of UC compensation, to know how their tuition money is being spent.

O. Mr. Patrick Mitchell, a UCLA employee and union official, urged UC to implement SB 190 immediately. He stated that UC should take the lead in opening Regents' meetings on compensation to the public voluntarily, rather than being forced to do so by legislation.

P. Mr. Steven Figueroa, Mexican American Political Association (MAPA) and Inland Empire Latino Coalition representative, expressed concern about the situation at the UCR Graduate School of Education (referred to by previous speakers) and rising student fees. He emphasized UC's status as a federally-funded university and decried a perceived lack of equitable access for students at UC. Mr. Figueroa expressed opposition to the founding of a medical school at UCR due to UC's denial of equitable access to the poor and people of color.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff