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

November 15, 2007

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

Members present: Regents Allen, Blum, Brewer, Bugay, De La Peña, Dynes, Garamendi, Gould, Hopkinson, Island, Johnson, Kozberg, Lansing, Marcus, Parsky, Preuss, Ruiz, Schilling, Varner, and Wachter

In attendance: Regents-designate Cole, Scorza, and Shewmake, Faculty Representatives Brown and Croughan, Secretary and Chief of Staff Griffiths, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Investment Officer Berggren, Provost Hume, Executive Vice Presidents Lapp and Darling, Senior Vice President Vacca, Vice President Foley, Acting Vice President Standiford, Chancellors Bishop, Block, Fox, Kang, Vanderhoef, and Yang, Acting Chancellor Grey, and Recording Secretary Johns

The meeting convened at 9:15 a.m. with Chairman Blum presiding.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Blum 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.

A. Mr. Rich Reed, an alumnus of UCSB, expressed concern about the quality of education at UC. He alleged poor performance by UC professors, with concomitant inferior results. Mr. Reed proposed successful performance of measurable skills in English and music as a reasonable goal for UC students. He criticized the Regents for speaking in general terms about "maintaining excellence" at UC while not requiring professors to demonstrate competence in specific skills. Mr. Reed mentioned his own proposals for educational reform and offered them to the University.

B. Mr. Alan Mittelstaedt, news editor for Los Angeles CityBeat newspaper, discussed his Public Records Act request (made to UCI) for relevant correspondence surrounding the hiring of Erwin Chemerinsky as dean of the new UCI law school. He appealed the withholding of two letters and redactions in a third letter he received. Mr. Mittelstaedt asked the Regents to examine the full text of the redacted letter and the two other withheld letters, and to place a discussion of full compliance with his records request on their next meeting agenda. He presented a letter explaining the reasons for his request, with legal

citations. Mr. Mittelstaedt underscored his belief in the legality of his records request and the public's continuing interest in and right to know about the circumstances of the Chemerinsky hiring.

C. Ms. Miranda Bogen, a second-year UCLA student, expressed support for reinstatement of the UC Education Abroad Program in Israel. She observed that the U.S. State Department travel advisory (on which UC's decision in this matter was based) does not actually restrict travel to Israel, and that other American universities allow students to study in Israel after signing a liability waiver. Ms. Bogen asked the Regents to revise this policy and guarantee that credits earned at Israeli universities will be transferable to UC.

D. Ms. Louise Hendrickson, UCR graduate student and acting president of the UC Student Association (UCSA), presented a plea to remove language from the UC budget (for presentation to the State Legislature) about a possible increase in student fees. She urged the Regents to support students in their lobbying efforts such that any new fee increase would be an action implemented by the Legislature, not the University.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff