The Regents of the University of California

**COMMITTEE ON GOVERNANCE**
November 15, 2007

The Committee on Governance met on the above date at Covel Commons, Los Angeles campus.

Members present: Regents Gould, Lansing, Preuss, and Schilling

In attendance: Regents Allen, Blum, Brewer, Bugay, De La Peña, Dynes, Garamendi, Hopkinson, Island, Johnson, Kozberg, Marcus, Parsky, Ruiz, and Varner, 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 Darling and Lapp, Chancellors Blumenthal, Fox, and Vanderhoef, and Recording Secretary Bryan

The meeting convened at 12:20 p.m. with Committee Chair Lansing presiding.

1. **ESTABLISHMENT OF TITLE REGENT EMERITUS**

Regent Lansing recommended that the following Policy be adopted:

> The title "Regent Emeritus" shall be conferred at the conclusion of an individual Regent's completion of the term on the Board of Regents to which he or she has been appointed. Regents who are unable to complete their terms due to illness shall also be eligible for the title. The title also shall be conferred on all former Regents who completed the term to which they were appointed.

Conferral of the emeritus title recognizes formally the service and dedication to the University of California of outgoing Regents. This action shall be included in the resolution adopted by the Board honoring a departing Regent. For current former Regents, the conferral of the title will be done automatically, and these individuals will be informed by the Office of the Secretary and Chief of Staff to The Regents.

Former Regents often continue to be important and effective advocates on behalf of the University. Emeritus status provides formal recognition of this ongoing role. It also will allow them to join advocacy efforts in a public and officially-recognized manner, providing additional credibility when they speak on University issues. In addition, a title may encourage continuing service by former Regents, fostering a renewed sense of responsibility to work on behalf of the University of California.

The majority of living former Regents are alumni. The total number of former living Regents who would receive this title is 86: 12 former appointed Regents, 26 former student Regents, and 48 alumni Regents.

Granting emeritus title to outgoing members of university governing boards is not unusual. Examples of public and private universities conferring this title include the following:

University of Alabama
Bowdoin College
Clemson University
University of Colorado
University of Hawaii
Kent State
University of Michigan
Minnesota State Colleges & Universities
Penn State University
University of Pittsburgh
Tufts University

General Counsel Robinson noted that the Committee lacked a quorum. He indicated that the recommendation could be discussed in the Committee meeting and be brought before the full Board as long as there is a quorum of the full Board.

Committee Chair Lansing commented on the commitment it takes to serve as a Regent and noted that many continue to be involved with the University once their service on the Board had ended. Providing the title "emeritus" will facilitate their work on the University's behalf.

Regent Preuss supported the recommendation, recalling how much former Regents had contributed. He believed that bestowing the emeritus title would be beneficial to the University.

Regent Garamendi also supported the recommendation; he asked, however, whether ex officio Regents, members of the Academic Senate, and alumni Regents would be included. Regent Lansing responded that she saw no reason not to include them. It was noted by Regent Brewer and others that members of the Academic Senate are not Regents.

General Counsel Robinson stated that, as written, the recommendation would not make a distinction between ex officio and other Regents; it would apply to all. Regent Garamendi believed that those who hold the office by virtue of their position in government should be excluded but other ex officio Regents should be included.

Regent Blum noted that according to the proposal a Regent must have served a full term unless prevented by illness from doing so. He believed that those who have served as Chairman and have left the Board early should be included.

Regent Kozberg was in support of the recommendation, noting that many former Regents are donors to the University.

Regent Island noted that no Board in the University's history had proposed that Regents be given the title emeritus. He believed it was inappropriate to give such an accolade indiscriminately; to equate every Board member's service with those of the most active members. He valued the goal of keeping dedicated members within the University family, but he observed that the State Constitution has a specific process for the title of Regent. He advocated finding other ways of keeping people enlisted in the cause.

Regent Hopkinson supported the concept of an emeritus title and suggested adopting the recommendation with the possible proviso that some criteria be developed for further approval.

Regent Gould offered a substitute motion that Regents complete their term of service or that they serve at least five years.

President Dynes commented that there are former Regents– alumni Regents, student Regents, and gubernatorial appointee Regents–who support the University, often in surprising ways. He emphasized that the benefit of bestowing this honor far exceeds any danger involved.

General Counsel Robinson suggested changing the trigger point from completion of term to end of service to take into account someone who leaves the Board after five years. Regent Lansing believed that a Regent must have completed his or her term or serve no fewer than five years. Conferral would occur either on completion of term or end of service.

Committee Chair Lansing did not view the title emeritus as an honor but rather as a recognition of service for people who are continuing to serve in the best interests of the University.

Regent Hopkinson believed that Regent Garamendi's suggestion to exclude elected officials merited consideration. Other than the Lieutenant Governor and a select few, most are not active participants as Regents.

General Counsel Robinson corrected his earlier opinion regarding ex officio Regents. He noted that the recommendation refers to appointed Regents, which would exclude ex officio Regents. The alumni Regents would need to be added to the proposal, and he agreed to provide appropriate language for this recommendation to be presented to the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff