THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
MEETING AS A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
May 13, 2008

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

Members present: Regents Allen, Brewer, Bugay, Dynes, Kozberg, Reiss, and Schilling

In attendance: Regents-designate Cole, Scorza and Shewmake, Faculty Representative Croughan, Secretary and Chief of Staff Griffiths, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Provost Hume, Executive Vice President Lapp, Chancellors Blumenthal and Vanderhoef, Acting Chancellor Grey, and Recording Secretary Smith

The meeting convened at 2:55 p.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. The following persons addressed the Board concerning the items noted.

A. Mr. Babken DerGrigorian, a UCLA student and representative of Take Hold! University, criticized Chairman Blum's financial holdings in corporations which have contracts with the University and the military. He requested the resignation of Chairman Blum.

B. Mr. Nathan Wright, a representative of Take Hold! University, discussed the U.S. responsibility for the war and occupation in Iraq and the responsibility of individuals holding financial capital that supports the war. He stated that the University should divest from any corporations profiting from the war in Iraq, which he deemed immoral and illegal.

C. Mr. David Shukla, a representative of Students for a Democratic Society, described the more than $66 billion that California taxpayers have paid for the war in Iraq as a mistaken priority which affects higher education and as an excuse to raise student fees. Enumerating priorities such as education, advocating for students, and investment in the future of California, he urged the Regents not to raise student fees.

D. Mr. Matthew Taylor, a UCB student, criticized the manner in which the University interacts with the public regarding its land use decisions, and the Berkeley campus' plans to build in Strawberry Canyon. He advocated the creation of a committee including community members and UC administrators to work together on the University's land use decisions.

E. Mr. Jason Ahmadi, a UCB alumnus, expressed opposition to further construction in Strawberry Canyon in Berkeley. He cited opposition to University construction by the City of Berkeley, landowners, and environmentalists, and opined that the public should be consulted regarding the University's construction projects, acceptance of funds from corporations, and nuclear weapons research.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff