

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

May 19, 2010

The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at UCSF–Mission Bay Community Center, San Francisco.

Members present: Regents Bernal, De La Peña, Gould, Island, Kieffer, Makarechian, Maldonado, Nunn Gorman, O’Connell, Reiss, Schilling, Stovitz, Varner, Yudof, and Zettel

In attendance: Regents-designate Cheng, DeFreece, and Hime, Faculty Representatives Powell and Simmons, Secretary and Chief of Staff Griffiths, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Investment Officer Berggren, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Vacca, Provost Pitts, Executive Vice Presidents Brostrom and Taylor, Senior Vice Presidents Dooley and Stobo, Vice Presidents Beckwith, Duckett, Lenz, and Sakaki, Chancellors Birgeneau, Block, Blumenthal, Desmond-Hellmann, Drake, Fox, Kang, Katehi, White, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Johns

The meeting convened at 8:40 a.m. with Chairman Gould presiding.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Gould 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. Greg Patterson, an alumnus of UC Davis and former student athlete, expressed concern about cuts to athletics programs on the campus. He noted that sports programs changed his life in a positive way and that future generations of students should have the same opportunity. He criticized the decision-making process in this case for being too rapid, using erroneous and premature criteria, and not considering alternative solutions. He urged the Regents to encourage Chancellor Katehi to use a better decision-making process.
- B. Mr. Paul Medved, an alumnus of UCD, also expressed concern about cuts to the campus’ intercollegiate athletic program. He highlighted two unique circumstances at UCD: Davis students are themselves the largest single funder of intercollegiate sports; and in 2003, the campus made a specific commitment, as part of its core principles, not to cut entire sports programs. Yet four teams are being cut effective July 1. Mr. Medved stated that the true stakeholders were not invited to participate in the decision-making process.

- C. Mr. Trit Garg, an undergraduate at UC Berkeley, stated that the UC system is falling behind on tobacco control policies. He reported that he and a student group have succeeded in having outdoor smoke at the dormitories restricted to designated areas. Their goal is to make the campus smoke-free. He urged the University to design policies to control tobacco on campus. Exposure to second-hand smoke is a serious health issue for college students.
- D. Mr. Dan Gable, an Olympic gold medalist, winner of two national titles, and wrestling coach at Iowa State University, where the team has won 15 national titles, noted that California high schools produce 27,000 wrestlers every year. There are few colleges or universities with wrestling programs, and many of these students are forced to leave the state. This is a loss for California, as these are exceptional individuals who will contribute to the economy. California has produced Olympic wrestlers. If programs are eliminated this opportunity will disappear. He asked that the University, while making cutbacks that are necessary, continue to meet students' needs, wait until further funding is available, and not eliminate entire sports programs.
- E. Ms. Toni Mendicino, a staff member at UC Berkeley, member of the Coalition of University Employees (CUE) and Campus Radical Women, noted that CUE has been seeking a contract for over two years. She expressed concern about the impact of budget cuts on low-income staff, increased contributions to the UC Retirement Plan (UCRP), layoffs, furloughs, potential outsourcing or cutting of childcare and student services, and tuition increases. Ms. Mendicino expressed support for custodians at UC Irvine who wish to have their jobs made permanent.
- F. Mr. Vic San Vicente, an employee at UC San Francisco and member of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) 3299, expressed concern about changes to the UCRP. He noted that his co-workers are among the lowest-paid employees at UC. He demanded that the University not make cuts to benefits. The proposed cuts will be devastating to low-wage workers. He asked that UC Irvine hire its outsourced American Building Maintenance (ABM) Industries workers.
- G. Mr. Jason Niemetz, a student at UC Merced, incoming vice chair of the Council on Student Fees, and chair of the UCM Student Fee Advisory Committee, expressed support for changing the name of the Registration Fee to Student Services Fee and for the proposed UC Student Fee Policy. He expressed his organizations' reservations about the guidelines for implementation of the Student Services Fee. These guidelines would allow the Fee to be used for funding auxiliary units such as housing and parking services, a misuse of the Student Services Fee. He asked that the guidelines be revised.
- H. Ms. Jessica Taal and Mr. Andy Cohen, members of the United Auto Workers (UAW) 2865, which represents academic student employees, expressed graduate student concerns. Mr. Cohen stated that UC sees its graduate students as a cheap

labor force. He criticized UC Berkeley Law School Dean Edley's vision of a "cybercampus" as myopic and the beginning of a frightening trajectory. He stated that the UC Commission on the Future is considering proposals based on business models which sacrifice undergraduate education to maximize profits. UC will lose top-notch graduate students. Ms. Taal stated that UC is at the forefront of privatization, with a high-fee, high-loan model that will drive low-income students into debt or shut them out. Pay for UC graduate student instructors is not competitive. Ms. Taal expressed her view that the Registration Fee has been misused. Fees have increased with no increase in quality of education. She stated that the Regents' legacy will be destruction of public higher education in California.

- I. Ms. Silvia Diaz, an ABM worker for 14 years, spoke for ABM workers at UC Irvine. She reported that, a few weeks previously, the campus opened positions, but with no guarantee of hiring ABM workers. She expressed the ABM custodial workers' wish to work for UCI, and stated that the University should recognize the work they do.
- J. An unidentified speaker stated that her husband has been working at UC Irvine for 20 years. She discussed her family's financial challenges and her concern that her daughter will not be able to attend college.
- K. Ms. Kandy Piper, a UC Berkeley employee of nearly 24 years and member of AFSCME 3299, expressed concern about proposed changes to the UCRP and their effects on campus workers. She emphasized the need for staff, faculty, and administration to be able to provide input on proposed changes to the UCRP and stated that the UC Retirement System (UCRS) Advisory Board needs to give more feedback to the President and Regents. Workers need a voice in pension and retirement system matters, and Regents must hear their voice before any benefit changes are considered. Proposed cuts to post-employment benefits would devastate low-wage workers.
- L. Mr. Michael Harris, the parent of a UC student, expressed concern about anti-Semitic incidents on UC campuses. He stated that the Muslim Student Union at UC Irvine has invited speakers to campus who hide hate speech behind claims of legitimate political discourse. He cautioned that increasing numbers of Jewish students do not wish to attend UC. He urged the University to condemn anti-Semitism as clearly and as vigorously as it condemns other forms of racism and hatred.
- M. Mr. Greg Dumas, a businessman and youth sports coach, discussed cuts to the UC Davis athletic programs. He criticized Chancellor Katehi for cutting sports programs while hiring a new vice chancellor. He observed that over 40 percent of collegiate wrestlers in California are Latino or Asian American students. He asked the Regents to review Chancellor Katehi's decision.

- N. Mr. Neal Sweeney, a postdoctoral scholar in biology at UC Santa Cruz, noted that his research uses stem cells to explore future therapies for eye diseases. He urged the University to reach a wage agreement with its 6,000 postdoctoral scholars as soon as possible. He stated that UC has failed to bargain in good faith with the UAW. Postdoctoral scholars receive relatively low wages and benefits; raising a family on this salary is very difficult.
- O. Mr. Hoku Jeffrey, Southern California coordinator for By Any Means Necessary (BAMN), urged the University to create campus-based scholarships for undocumented students, many of whom are denied the opportunity to attend college and denied access to federal financial aid. Families and communities of undocumented students contribute tax dollars and labor to the economy. Mr. Jeffrey stated that the State of Arizona has given police the ability to harass and intimidate every Latino person and called for public action.
- P. Mr. Joe Pullido, an AFSCME 3299 member and retiree who worked for UC for over 30 years, emphasized that UC workers need to have a voice in the form of joint governance. This is important for the future of the University.
- Q. Mr. Julian Posadas, executive vice president of AFSCME 3299, referred to the efforts of ABM workers to receive an opportunity to work for UC. These are dedicated workers who have provided high-quality service to the Irvine campus for 20 years. Mr. Posadas decried the lack of a clear and transparent process to become a UC worker. He described the ABM workers as having been treated as second-class workers and stated that all subcontracting in the UC system should end.

2. **REMARKS OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD**

Chairman Gould welcomed Lieutenant Governor Maldonado to the Board of Regents. He congratulated Regents Lansing, Zettel, and Kieffer on their confirmation. He recalled that, at the March meeting, a group of students and some chancellors reported to the Board on incidents of intolerance and intimidation on some UC campuses. The students spoke eloquently about their personal experiences, disappointment, and outrage, and about the need for greater faculty and student diversity.

Chairman Gould announced the establishment of a committee on campus climate, which will be led by Regent Island. The other members of the committee are Regents Kieffer, Reiss, Ruiz, Schilling, and Zettel, alumni Regent-designate DeFreece, student Regent-designate Cheng, Faculty Representative Powell, and Staff Advisor Martinez. The work of this committee will correspond to the work of the President, who is establishing a Council on Campus Climate, Culture, and Inclusion, a systemwide effort. Chairman Gould assured the students that the Regents have heard their concerns, that they take those concerns seriously, and that they will work with students to provide a safe and welcoming environment on every campus.

Chairman Gould then discussed budget issues. The Governor recently released his May revision for the 2010-11 State budget. University representatives attended an April 27 meeting in Sacramento with the Governor and with leaders of the California State University and the community colleges. At this meeting the Governor promised that he would not sign a budget without proposed funding for higher education similar to the funding proposed in his January budget. This is a statement of exceptional support in very difficult financial times. Chairman Gould recalled that the State's revenues dropped by \$1.3 billion in April. Federal funding, assumed as part of the January budget, has not fully materialized. California still faces a \$20 billion shortfall. Higher education will have to fight to maintain its status, like other segments of the budget. This will be a very challenging process, but the Governor's commitment is an excellent starting point and it will help the University. However, even with this commitment, the Governor's proposal is less than half of UC's proposal.

Chairman Gould indicated that, at the meeting that day, ideas from the work of the UC Commission on the Future would be discussed, including reforms that the University could adopt to address chronic budget shortfalls. There are new initiatives for administrative savings over the next five years which may reach \$500 million annually. More ideas from the Commission will be presented at future Board meetings, ideas which will have a far-reaching effect on the shape of the University, while it maintains its focus on quality, access, and affordability. Chairman Gould stated that the University must be open to considering substantial changes to its operations in these difficult times.

Chairman Gould thanked alumni Regents Stovitz and Nunn Gorman, Staff Advisor Abeyta, and student Regent Bernal for their service on the Board, for representing their constituencies, and for their candor and leadership.

3. **REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY**

President Yudof welcomed Lieutenant Governor Maldonado and the incoming Staff Advisor, Penelope Herbert. Ms. Herbert is manager in the Department of Clinical Operations in the UC Davis Health System. He thanked student Regent Bernal for his service.

President Yudof noted that the Regents had received a report by UC Berkeley Law School Dean Edley on recent events at UC San Diego. He thanked Dean Edley for his work and observed that the report is available to interested parties. He informed the Regents that he is finalizing the roster of the President's Council on Campus Climate, Culture, and Inclusion. Each campus is finalizing its campus committee roster. The campus councils will have broad representation from all sectors of the campus and off-campus communities, including students, faculty, staff, and community leaders. The local campus climate committees are charged with setting metrics and monitoring progress to improve campus climate. The systemwide committee will monitor progress across all campuses and report periodically to the Regents.

President Yudof then discussed advocacy efforts. He reported that he was encouraged by the April 27 meeting with the Governor, the leaders of the three higher education segments, and other legislators. The Governor pledged that he would not sign a budget if funding for higher education was not at least partially restored. It was an impressive statement and President Yudof expressed the University's appreciation for the Governor's stand. There were also meetings with State Senate President pro Tempore Steinberg and other lawmakers. The University must continue to fight for every dollar. This is an unfortunate time when social programs are being cut back, but the future of California, its ability to make an economic recovery and provide employment, depends on current and future UC students.

In the current financial crisis the University has taken temporary measures which President Yudof described as desperate, such as furloughs, layoffs, and fee increases, and which were necessary to preserve the University. The University must now find longer-term sustainable means of operating. There has been restructuring of UC's debt, saving \$75 million annually. UC is improving strategic sourcing, pursuing energy efficiencies, and reorganizing the Office of the President, reducing the Office's size by about 500 employees and \$60 million. However, this is just a beginning; UC must continue to seek greater administrative efficiency and improve its business systems. President Yudof anticipated that in the next five years, the University would be able to redirect hundreds of millions of dollars annually from administrative costs to its core academic and research missions. He estimated that the University is almost \$2 billion behind where it would be if the State had continued the funding trajectory of 1990, rather than its policy of disinvestment over the last two decades.

The University must seek efficiencies for a number of reasons. Some UC measures are not sustainable. The furlough plan will end in August. It is not sustainable with regard to faculty and staff retention and competitiveness. Hiring freezes on new faculty and inadequate stipends for graduate students are not sustainable measures. The University needs to look to other strategies to provide funding for its core education and research missions. Chief Financial Officer Taylor and Executive Vice President Brostrom would make a presentation on this later that day. The Berkeley campus, with consultation from Bain & Company, is making progress in administrative efficiencies, reducing operational expenses through joint purchase agreements and shared activities. These efforts will save many millions of dollars. Other campuses have similar initiatives.

President Yudof suggested that the University is probably too decentralized. The University could carry out standardization of human resources information technology systems and of payroll systems; it could forgo computer system backup centers for every campus. Such measures would cause some inconvenience, but generate significant savings, which could be returned to students, faculty, and staff. The reform of business processes is difficult but absolutely necessary. It is the least bad alternative and preferable to cutting back on core educational and research activities. He cited a statement by business consultant and author James Collins, to the effect that great organizations clearly distinguish their core values, which never change, from their operating strategies and cultural practices, which endlessly adapt to a changing world. The University's core

values are right, as is its core mission. The University must find out how to retain and achieve those values, enhance access to the University, but balance the budget at a time when the State has been disinvesting in UC for many years.

President Yudof emphasized the many positive contributions made by the University, in medicine, science, social science, and culture. As an example, the Pulitzer Prize in poetry has been awarded to a UC professor. These breakthroughs are no accident; they occur because UC has fine professors, fine graduate students, and an extraordinary undergraduate student population. UC also contributes through volunteerism and participation in the community. California is changing quickly, demographically and economically; the University must anticipate these changes. The University must improve access for underrepresented students at all levels. The University must be innovative and flexible, but it must remain mindful of the core values of the California Master Plan for Higher Education, which has now been implemented for more than 50 years. President Yudof stated that the vision for the future of UC is that it should strive to enroll more low-income students and underrepresented student groups. The challenge is to preserve UC's core values in an era of scarcity.

Lieutenant Governor Maldonado thanked the Regents for their welcome. He stressed the importance of maintaining the excellence of the University, and the importance of transparency, accountability, and access. He stated that he looked forward to working with the Regents, visiting the campuses and chancellors, and getting to know UC staff and the President.

4. **REMARKS OF THE CHAIR OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE**

Faculty Representative Powell provided a brief overview of the Academic Senate's work in four areas: the UC Commission on the Future, diversity, post-employment benefits, and advocacy. The Academic Senate committees and divisions on the campuses have devoted a great deal of time since March studying the recommendations of the Commission's five working groups. The Academic Senate will develop a position and recommendations prior to the next Commission meeting in June. The Academic Senate's commentary and input is informed by a deep understanding of what the University does, and of various initiatives that have been undertaken over the past 20 years, such as self-supporting master's programs for professionals and innovation in online learning; also by an understanding of how to ensure that new programs and degrees meet UC standards. The Academic Senate looks forward to providing its recommendations to the Commission, and to a second round of Senate input to the working groups.

Dr. Powell then discussed diversity and admissions. The Academic Senate's Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools (BOARS) would submit a report to the Academic Council the following week, a five-year review of the comprehensive review system in admissions. This report considers a series of problems, including the technical details of UC admissions practices and an analysis of outcomes. Best practices on admissions from all the campuses are shared, analyzed, and reviewed. The Regents would receive this report before the July meeting.

As a faculty member from UC San Diego, Dr. Powell noted that he felt a special responsibility for diversity on that campus. He looked forward to the Academic Senate's participation on the President's Council on Campus Climate, Culture, and Inclusion. Dr. Powell informed the Regents that there is a systemwide Academic Senate committee, the University Committee on Affirmative Action and Diversity (UCAAD), with committees on each of the campuses. These committees have monitored the effects of various policies and practices on faculty diversity. They study issues such as pay equity, improvements in faculty recruitment, reforms in faculty discipline processes, and the impact of budget cuts on faculty diversity. UCAAD is currently developing proposals to ensure that faculty merit reviews and administrator and staff leadership reviews include diversity promotion among the elements on which merit is judged.

Dr. Powell turned to the recent report on diversity at UCSD submitted by UC Berkeley Law School Dean Edley. He expressed agreement with Mr. Edley's assessment that recruitment for a new senior vice chancellor for academic affairs at UCSD will be critical to improving the campus climate. Dr. Powell emphasized the commitment of his colleagues in the San Diego division of the Academic Senate to fostering diversity, which was well in evidence when, within a week after the February events, their committee on diversity met to discuss the events and how to address them. UC San Diego can learn from its sister campuses UCLA and Berkeley. The UCSD admissions and diversity committees are examining best practices from other campuses. The chair of BOARS, Professor Sylvia Hurtado, will study the report on comprehensive review and assist the San Diego campus to address recent concerns. Dr. Powell stated his view that the San Diego division of the Academic Senate is not in opposition to an inclusive faculty, student body, and campus. UCSD is situated in a community with certain challenges, and has historically tended to recruit students and faculty who are strong in the sciences. The campus has now undergone a traumatic experience. Healing will involve new efforts for improvement of the campus climate. Dr. Powell reported his own experience from service on the Chancellor's committee on diversity, learning that diversity creates community. The true test of leadership in diversity will not come in the immediate aftermath of a crisis, but six months and one year later. Dr. Powell expressed confidence that UCSD will improve in this area. This issue will take time to solve, and it will be solved by people with a commitment to healing rather than to argument.

Dr. Powell reported that he and Faculty Representative Simmons have met with faculty on nine of the ten campuses to discuss post-employment benefits. They found a sense of thoughtful engagement and concern for the good of the whole University as well as personal circumstances. Faculty members would provide valuable input when proposals were brought forward for consideration and review. There is great concern about the viability of the UC Retirement System. There are various concerns expressed by long-time faculty and more recently hired faculty. The University cannot remain a vibrant and leading institution if it cannot retain world-class faculty and staff in its next generation of employees. During a recent visit to the Santa Barbara campus, faculty expressed a willingness to support higher contributions to help the system remain viable.

Dr. Powell expressed the Academic Senate's view of the importance of working closely on advocacy issues with colleagues from the community colleges and the California State University system. They have met with leading legislators, such as Assemblyman Ira Ruskin and representatives of the Legislative Analyst's Office, and with State governmental relations officers from all higher education segments. One product of this collaborative work is a brochure on the importance of higher education in California's future. These efforts are creating a climate in which advocacy is accepted by all segments of public higher education as an important effort, not for the short term but in perpetuity.

Regent Kieffer referred to the March "Choices Report" by the Academic Senate's University Committee on Planning and Budget (UCPB). He asked where the report would now be routed and what effect it might have. Dr. Powell responded that the Choices Report was disseminated almost as soon as it was written. The UCPB is a constituent committee of the Academic Council, charged with framing the Academic Senate's conception of budgetary priorities. The Choices Report is being reviewed by members of the Academic Council. When review by the Academic Council is complete, the report will be forwarded to the President. The Choices Report follows a series of reports made by past Planning and Budget committees, such as the "Cuts Report" and the "Futures Report." These reports are probably the most influential documents produced by the Academic Senate in advising the President on budget matters.

Regent Kieffer stated that he found the discussion of online education in the Choices Report to be surprisingly negative and narrow. The Choices Report raises good questions about the implementation and effect of online education, but provides no sense of any effort to make online education work. Dr. Powell responded that the Choices Report reflects a sense of alarm at the results of high-profile, expensive experiments in online education conducted by other universities. There are four to six particularly bad examples where large sums were invested in efforts which subsequently failed. The greatest concern for the UCPB is that the University give careful consideration to any steps it takes in this area. This is one reason why the Academic Senate has emphasized bottom-up innovation, identification of methods that function well, and support for those methods, rather than imposition of methods from the top down. The faculty are aware of the crisis facing the University and that every dollar is precious. They want to ensure that investments in this area be judicious. Dr. Powell observed that UC has experience with online education as far back as the 1960s. There have been many successful experiments. But it is challenging to make these various experiments into one system of delivery. Faculty are concerned that a future proposal not place a further burden on a stressed budget.

5. **PRESIDENT'S AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING STUDENT LEADERSHIP**

President Yudof announced the recipients of the first annual President's Award for Outstanding Student Leadership. He recognized the role of former student Regent Scorza in suggesting the creation of this award. The goal of the award is to recognize, at the systemwide level, the extraordinary work of students and student organizations across multiple campuses, work that benefits the University's mission of teaching, research, and

public service, and work that effects systemwide change. Nominations for the award were solicited from chancellors and from UC Student Association chapters on each campus. A selection committee at the Office of the President reviewed and scored each of the nominations. There were many outstanding submissions and the choice was difficult. There were two winners: the Olive Tree Initiative at UC Irvine, for its efforts to promote dialogue and improve understanding of Israeli-Palestinian relations; and IDEAS (Improving Dreams, Equality, Access and Success) at UCLA, for its work on behalf of undocumented immigrant students. Both groups are doing extraordinary work systemwide, at their home campuses, and in their communities. Their efforts are in the best tradition of activism, public service, and open dialogue, which have always been the hallmarks of the University and its students. Each group will receive a \$2,000 grant.

In March 2007, a diverse group of UC Irvine students from Jewish, Muslim, Christian, Druze, and non-religious backgrounds with various perspectives on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict founded the Olive Tree Initiative. The students were inspired to create a forum to discuss and learn about their different perspectives. In fall 2008, 16 students and two faculty members traveled to the region. They met with academics, politicians, religious authorities, community leaders, and activists. A second group went to the region last year, and a third group would travel there in the coming fall. Since returning to the campus, participants have shared their experiences in more than 40 forums on and off campus. Last year they hosted a three-day UC student leadership summit, which resulted in other campuses adopting the Olive Tree Initiative model. At a time when civil dialogue on these vital issues is often lacking, the members of the Olive Tree Initiative are admirable role models. President Yudof introduced UCI students Oren Klein and Aran Aghapour. He thanked and congratulated UCI Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Gomez, who has accompanied these student journeys.

Chancellor Drake thanked the President for this recognition. The values championed at UCI are respect, intellectual curiosity, commitment, empathy, integrity, tolerance and appreciation, and fun. The campus also focuses on pillars of excellence: academic, research, character, and leadership excellence. There are no better exemplars of these values and pillars of excellence than the Olive Tree Initiative students. This is a student-run and student-led initiative, supported by the campus. Chancellor Drake observed that there is hope for the future if it is led by these students. Mr. Klein thanked the Regents for this honor. He also thanked Chancellor Drake and Vice Chancellor Gomez for their wisdom and guidance. He noted that this effort has had an impact on him personally, in that he now has friends in the Muslim Student Union and that positive dialogue takes place at UC Irvine. He expressed the hope that the Olive Tree Initiative would serve as a stepping stone for people in the region to do the same. Ms. Aghapour noted that the Olive Tree Initiative holds weekly meetings with over 50 students of diverse backgrounds, and a weekly public forum. She had just organized a two-week program to engage the campus in dialogue. She invited the Regents to visit UCI at any time to witness constructive dialogue at work. She thanked Chancellors Yang and Blumenthal for supporting their students to develop similar programs at the Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz campuses and for allowing the Olive Tree Initiative to address issues of importance to all communities.

President Yudof informed the Regents that IDEAS at UCLA was established in 2003 to support students covered under AB 540, the California law that exempts California high school graduates, including undocumented students, who meet certain eligibility requirements from paying nonresident tuition in California public colleges and universities. Undocumented AB 540 students face pressures in addition to their academic work that for many people would be almost unimaginable. They are ineligible for State or federal financial aid. They face severe limitations in finding employment, including campus jobs, to finance their education. They are prohibited from obtaining driver licenses. Many of these students ride buses for two to three hours daily to and from campus. IDEAS was established to make life for these students easier. Group members have lobbied for both California and federal versions of the Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act, have raised funds for scholarships, provided a food bank, and created evening transportation services for students living far from campus. They mentor high school students and serve as role models for similar groups on other campuses. Most importantly, they ease the isolation and difficulties faced by these students and help them to persevere in their education against the odds. President Yudof noted that two founding members of IDEAS, Cinthya Felix Perez and Tam Tran, had died in an automobile accident a few days previously. Both were pursuing doctoral studies. The ongoing work of IDEAS stands as a lifelong tribute to the dreams of these young women. President Yudof introduced UCLA students Eder Gaona and Lizeth Flores.

Chancellor Block thanked the President for this award and stated that he could not imagine a more deserving group of students. The two student leaders present were focused, reasoned, and passionate. They represented AB 540 students throughout the UC system. These are impressive students who work hard, often travel long distances, and are financially challenged. Chancellor Block expressed the hope that the University would find a way to provide financial support to them. Ms. Flores thanked President Yudof and Chancellor Block. She noted that the award comes at a bittersweet moment, with the passing of Ms. Perez and Ms. Tran. She acknowledged the risks borne by students who are working for passage of a federal DREAM Act. Mr. Gaona noted that the recent fee increases have caused a significant drop in the enrollment of undocumented students. He urged the Regents to secure authorization to provide institutional aid for them. He recalled that he sometimes commuted six hours daily to campus, among other challenges. He thanked the Regents for this award.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff