

The Regents of the University of California

**COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY LABORATORIES**

January 18, 2012

The Committee on Oversight of the Department of Energy Laboratories met on the above date at Highlander Union Building, Riverside campus.

Members present: Regents Blum, De La Peña, Pattiz, Ruiz, and Varner; Ex officio members Gould, Lansing, and Yudof; Advisory members Powell and Rubenstein

In attendance: Regents Hallett, Kieffer, Makarechian, Mireles, Pelliccioni, Reiss, Schilling, Wachter, and Zettel, Regents-designate Mendelson and Stein, Faculty Representative Anderson, Secretary and Chief of Staff Kelman, Associate Secretary Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Investment Officer Berggren, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Vacca, Provost Pitts, Executive Vice President Brostrom, Chief Financial Officer Taylor, Senior Vice Presidents Dooley and Stobo, Vice Presidents Allen-Diaz, Darling, Duckett, Lenz, and Sakaki, Chancellors Birgeneau, Block, Blumenthal, Desmond-Hellmann, Drake, Fox, Katehi, Leland, White, and Yang, and Recording Secretary McCarthy

The meeting convened at 11:40 a.m. with Committee Chair Pattiz presiding.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of September 14, 2011 were approved.

2. UPDATE ON THE DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY LABORATORIES

[Background material was mailed to Regents in advance of the meeting, and a copy is on file in the Office of the Secretary and Chief of Staff.]

Committee Chair Pattiz acknowledged the service of Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) Director Alivisatos, and congratulated him on his recent award of Israel's highly prestigious Wolf Prize in Chemistry. Each year the Wolf Foundation awards \$100,000 in five fields. Mr. Alivisatos would receive the prize from the President of Israel at the Knesset Building in Jerusalem later in the year.

Committee Chair Pattiz also announced that the editors of *R & D* magazine chose Secretary of Energy Chu, former Director of LBNL, as their 2011 Scientist of the Year. In selecting Mr. Chu, *R & D* stated, "Despite his existing role in creating policy, Chu has remained a researcher and publisher of papers in both physics and advanced biological imaging methods. His enduring influence in the scientific world, his ability to exercise

thoughtful analysis on a wide range of scientific topics and his unwavering dedication to the advance of scientific knowledge all contribute to his selection as Scientist of the Year.” Committee Chair Pattiz noted that Mr. Chu’s selection spoke well for LBNL and the entire UC system, and underlined the importance of maintaining UC’s role as the world’s premier scientific research university.

Committee Chair Pattiz stated that Parney Albright had been selected as Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory’s (LLNL) 11th director following an extensive search, involving more than 200 applicants. Mr. Albright has credibility in the national security arena and a history of addressing a broad range of complex technical issues for the nation’s senior leaders. He understood how the fundamental and applied science, engineering, computational, and other capabilities of LLNL could contribute to advances in energy technologies, scientific discoveries, and global security. Committee Chair Pattiz noted Mr. Albright’s commitment to, and understanding of, the critical role LLNL played in the weapons complex, the Stockpile Stewardship and Management Program, the National Ignition Facility, and the National Ignition Campaign. Mr. Albright’s skill and experience would enable him to lead the Laboratory into a new era of scientific and technological excellence in service to the nation.

Mr. Albright highlighted recent developments at LLNL and its collaborative research with UC campuses. The National Ignition Facility, by far the world’s largest laser, was operative, exploring regimes in pressure, temperature, and energy that normally exist only inside stars and giant gaseous planets; researchers from many campuses were involved in finding ways to use this capability. The world’s largest computer, the 20-petaflop Sequoia computing system, would be installed at LLNL this fall. The world’s second largest computer, with a processing speed of five to ten petaflops, would be installed in the area at LLNL devoted to public/private partnerships, and would be available to a much broader University research community as well as research and development firms. The Laboratory’s unique computer capabilities were being applied to a wide variety of problems regarding materials, biomedical research, and energy production. Mr. Albright emphasized that LLNL’s ability to collaborate with UC researchers was fundamental to its success.

Committee Chair Pattiz expressed his hope that research at the National Ignition Facility would lead to the development of fusion, only one example of the vast array of research conducted at LLNL.

Regent Varner urged the Regents to visit the National Laboratories and commended the work of Committee Chair Pattiz.

The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff