

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

January 22, 2015

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

Members present: Regents De La Peña, Elliott, Engelhorn, Gould, Island, Kieffer, Lansing, Leong Clancy, Lozano, Makarechian, Napolitano, Pérez, Reiss, Ruiz, Saifuddin, Varner, and Zettel

In attendance: Regents-designate Davis and Oved, Faculty Representatives Gilly and Hare, Secretary and Chief of Staff Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Investment Officer Bachher, Provost Dorr, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Brostrom, Senior Vice President Stobo, Vice Presidents Duckett and Sakaki, Chancellors Block, Blumenthal, Gillman, Hawgood, Katehi, Leland, Wilcox, and Yang, and Recording Secretary McCarthy

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Varner 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.

1. Mr. Alexander Aprea, senior at Jesuit High School in Sacramento, expressed appreciation for State Senator Padilla's support of Senate Bill 1200 that requests UC to provide guidelines for high school computer science courses that satisfy the UC mathematic subject requirements and build upon fundamental mathematics content in courses aligned with academic content standards developed by the Academic Standards Commission. Mr. Aprea urged the Regents to prioritize the implementation of the requirements of SB 1200, laying the foundation for a more robust and competitive California economy.
2. Mr. Christopher Campbell, student at UC Irvine School of Law, stated that the California Master Plan for Higher Education guarantees access to the highest-performing California students to a system of public higher education. UC was built by Californians to serve Californians. Policies increasing tuition are in direct opposition to UC's mandate of public service and should be a last resort. The University must accurately assess what the cost of educating its students is before it can properly assess what level of tuition increases are required, if any. The recent action to increase tuition up to five percent a year for five years does not have a basis in fact.
3. Ms. Erica Smeltzer, UC Santa Cruz Ph.D. candidate, said that UC graduate students should receive adequate support to complete their degrees, including sufficient funding

for housing. The real cost of rent, utilities, and staples are often not taken into consideration when calculating graduate student support. Inadequate support offers in high-cost areas like the San Francisco Bay Area, Santa Cruz, or Los Angeles limit the options of graduate students, particularly those from low-income families. Graduate students are often the face of the University and should reflect the diversity of the undergraduate students they serve.

4. Ms. Akshaya Natarajan, first-year student at UC Santa Barbara, stated that there has been a backlash to President Napolitano's Long-term Stability Plan for Tuition and Financial Aid, particularly from middle-class students who will face the full effect of tuition increases. Many students would not be able to come to UC because it would not be affordable. She acknowledged that the Regents face the rising cost of educating more students with insufficient State funding.
5. Ms. Iman Sylvain, external affairs vice president of the UC Berkeley Graduate Assembly, urged the Regents to examine the critical effect the proposed tuition increase, in addition to increases in Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition, would have on graduate students. She expressed concern about the high level of student loan debt carried by many UC graduate and professional students. Graduate students serve multiple critical roles at UC.
6. Ms. Caitlin Quinn, external affairs vice president of the Associated Students of UC Berkeley, said that students want to be included in discussions about tuition. She urged the Regents to consider the effect tuition increases would have on UC students and their families.
7. Mr. Spencer Pritchard, fourth-year UC Berkeley student, said that he had student loans amounting to tens of thousands of dollars. His younger brother would not be able to afford to attend a UC.
8. Dr. Stuart Bussey, president of the Union of American Physicians and Dentists (UAPD), said that doctors at UC student health centers joined the UAPD in the fall of 2013. A year of negotiations including 41 bargaining sessions have been held since that time. The prior week the Union gave UC notice that UC student health doctors would hold a one-day unfair labor practice strike on January 27, UAPD's first strike in its 43 years as a union. The UAPD filed an unfair labor practice charges against the University for illegal actions in bargaining. For example, physicians asked for information about the chancellors' discretionary funds on each campus, because they think the funds could be put to better use to support student health, but the UC Office of the President had not provided that information. Dr. Bussey urged the Regents to examine the University's labor relations.
9. Ms. Andrea Hesse, academic divisional computing director at UC Santa Cruz, commented on the general welfare of nonrepresented staff. Three primary problem areas are: (1) unsustainable workloads after losing 20 percent of UCSC staff; (2) flat salaries over six years resulting in severe salary compression problems; and (3) difficulty recruiting and retaining employees because of workload and compensation relative to

competitive markets and the cost of living. These conditions create a demoralized work environment and negatively affect staff's ability to deliver the services students and faculty require. For instance, UCSC's disability resource center is comprised of three staff members who coordinate federally mandated services for students with permanent disabilities. The population it serves has grown tenfold, while staffing is unchanged. Students arriving on campus reasonably expect access to essential services and rely on skilled professional staff. If such support is lacking, UC risks its institutional reputation, federal contracts and grants, and regulatory compliance. UC Santa Cruz is now bracing for another round of budget cuts that will only exacerbate these challenges. She suggested the following mitigation actions: develop intentional funding models for academic and institutional support units; make seniority a driver in compensation by investing in an equity program that remedies market-driven parity issues; fund a more robust merit program; and provide mentoring and training programs that support staff development.

10. Mr. Peter Solum, UC Santa Cruz alumnus, commented on fossil fuel divestment and renewable energy investment. He said there may have been inadequate analysis of risk associated with the real asset, energy, and commodity investments, particularly the University's holdings in the coal and crude oil industries. He suggested selling coal holdings and using the proceeds to fund the \$1 billion investment in sustainable energy. He also advocated more transparency about this issue and those involving the Department of Energy and Los Alamos National Laboratory.
11. Mr. Kyle Baily, UCLA third-year student, said that he hoped his younger sister and other future students would be able to afford to attend a UC.
12. Mr. Jaimeson Cortez said he spoke on behalf of UCLA undergraduate and graduate students. He said that the prior day the UCLA Graduate Students Association unanimously approved a resolution rejecting a tuition increase and that undergraduates at UC Riverside, UC Merced, UC Berkeley, UC Santa Cruz, UC Irvine, and UCLA had passed resolutions of no confidence in the Regents' leadership. Students were prepared to launch coordinated disruptive actions at each UC campus as long as tuition increases remained a possibility. He urged the Regents to put concerns of students first.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff