

The Regents of the University of California

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY

November 19, 2015

The Committee on Educational Policy met on the above date at UCSF–Mission Bay Conference Center, San Francisco.

Members present: Regents Elliott, Gorman, Island, Kieffer, Lansing, Newsom, Ortiz Oakley, Oved, Reiss, and Torlakson; Ex officio members Lozano and Napolitano; Advisory members Brody, Chalfant, Ramirez, and Schroeder; Staff Advisors Acker and Richmond

In attendance: Regents Blum, Davis, De La Peña, Makarechian, Pattiz, Ruiz, Sherman, and Zettel, Faculty Representative Hare, Secretary and Chief of Staff Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Vacca, Chief Investment Officer Bachher, Provost Dorr, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Brostrom, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Nava, Executive Vice President Stobo, Senior Vice Presidents Henderson and Peacock, Vice Presidents Brown, Budil, and Humiston, Chancellors Block, Blumenthal, Gillman, Hawgood, Katehi, Khosla, Leland, Wilcox, and Yang, and Recording Secretary McCarthy

The meeting convened at 10:10 a.m. with Committee Chair Island presiding.

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of September 17, 2015 were approved.

2. **UPDATE ON THE WORKING GROUP ON PRINCIPLES AGAINST INTOLERANCE**

Committee Chair Island, Chair of the Working Group, updated the Regents on the Group's progress. An initial organizational meeting was held at UCLA. The Working Group is committed to UC's principle of providing a safe, welcoming, and nurturing environment to all of UC's students, faculty, and staff. The Working Group agreed to embark on a deliberative and careful process, and its efforts have garnered nationwide attention from the public and the media. A public forum was held at UCLA at which the Group heard from 61 speakers. Another meeting would be held at UCLA in early December, to which thoughtful researchers, scholars, and opinion leaders were invited to address the Group on issues of the First Amendment, intolerance, and anti-Semitism. The Working Group has scheduled two subsequent meetings to draft a statement of principles against intolerance for the UC system. Committee Chair Island expressed hope that this work would find wide acceptance at its conclusion.

Regent Pattiz complimented Committee Chair Island on his leadership of the Working Group, particularly for providing an open forum for thoughts and ideas, including from noted experts on various relevant subjects. Regent Pattiz expressed confidence that this process would result in a good outcome in a timely manner. He said that a solution must be found for a problem that exists in the unique context of the University.

Regent Lansing expressed support for the thorough process being used by Committee Chair Island and confidence in the eventual result.

Regent Oved expressed his view that it would be inappropriate for people who are not members of a particular community to feel entitled to define discrimination on behalf of that community. He added that the Regents were not discussing only one form of discrimination, but were working toward a statement that would be inclusive, yet specific, in battling different forms of discrimination.

Regent Blum expressed support for the comments of Regents Pattiz, Lansing, and Oved and emphasized the importance of this matter.

Regent Reiss complimented Committee Chair Island for his leadership. She recalled earlier incidents of intolerance against black students. She expressed strong support for First Amendment rights, but said they do not protect intimidation of groups of students. She expressed her view that the University seemed to be less responsive to acts of discrimination against its Jewish students than against other groups of students. She expressed confidence that the Working Group would develop an appropriate statement, but added that the climate on each campus must be changed.

Regent-designate Ramirez cautioned about possible Islamophobia and anti-refugee sentiment on UC campuses.

Regent Davis noted the importance of this issue to UC alumni. He reported that the alumni Regents and Regents-designate convened a meeting recently at UCLA with UC alumni leadership from all ten UC campuses and parents of current UC students to discuss this issue; the group developed recommendations for the Task Force. The recommendations included support for a comprehensive University statement of policy and, following the model of the Task Force on Prevention of Sexual Assault and Sexual Violence, development of educational programs for incoming and existing UC students, to provide a historical and cultural rationale behind the University's core value of tolerance, including a clarification of students' responsibility to follow the policy and consequences for failure to do so.

Regent-designate Brody expressed his view that it would be important to review former President Yudof's University-wide analysis of anti-Semitism and to review the existing method of reporting incidents of intolerance and outcomes. He added that intolerance affects many groups of students. He expressed his hope that the Regent's response would relate to intolerance for all groups so affected.

Regent Pattiz stated that the Working Group had been formed because the earlier proposed Statement of Principles Against Intolerance had been viewed as too generic in that it did not even mention anti-Semitism, and incidents of anti-Semitism were the reason for the drafting of the Statement. He expressed support for a broad statement, but one that directly addressed anti-Semitism.

Student Observer Elijah Pipersburg, UC Davis student, expressed support for the implementation of principles against intolerance.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff