

The Regents of the University of California

NATIONAL LABORATORIES COMMITTEE

January 19, 2021

The National Laboratories Committee met on the above date by teleconference meeting conducted in accordance with Paragraph 3 of Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-29-20.

Members present: Regents Estolano, Kieffer, Mart, Reilly, Sures, and Zettel; Ex officio members Drake and Pérez; Advisory member Gauvain; Chancellors Khosla and Larive

In attendance: Regents Blum, Butler, Elliott, Lansing, Leib, Makarechian, Muwwakkil, and Sherman, Regents-designate Lott, Torres, and Zaragoza, Secretary and Chief of Staff Shaw, General Counsel Robinson, Executive Vice President Byington, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Nava, Vice President Leasure, Chancellors Block, May, Muñoz, Wilcox, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Li

The meeting convened at 2:50 p.m. with Committee Chair Zettel presiding.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of September 16, 2020 were approved, Regents, Drake, Estolano, Kieffer, Pérez, Reilly, Sures, and Zettel voting “aye.”¹

2. ANNUAL REPORT ON FISCAL YEAR 2020 NATIONAL LABORATORY PERFORMANCE RATINGS

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

Vice President Leasure stated that the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) and the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) awarded the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) 94 percent of its earned fee. LBNL was recognized for its world-class science and technology, its senior leadership, its response to COVID-19 and contributions to COVID-19 research, the value of UC oversight and assurance, and Nobel Prize winner Jennifer Doudna. LBNL had some issues with work planning, control, and contractor management. In May 2020, UC’s contract with LBNL was extended to May 31, 2025.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) was awarded 91 percent of its earned fee. It was recognized for its sustained excellence in science and technology; its response to COVID-19 and contributions to COVID-19 research; and its support of DOE and

¹ Roll call vote required by the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act [Government Code § 11123(b)(1)(D)] for all meetings held by teleconference.

Strategic Partnerships Projects, which served organizations like the National Science Foundation (NSF), the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and the intelligence community. LBNL was also recognized for its leadership, particularly that of Director William H. Goldstein, and its climate change work with the Livermore Lab Foundation, which was supported by UC.

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) was awarded 88 percent of its earned fee, an improvement from the previous year's 66 percent. It was recognized for sustained excellence in science and technology; global security, including remediation of the contaminated site in Seattle; DOE and Strategic Partnerships Projects; and leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Laboratory had some issues with conduct of operations and worker safety.

UC National Laboratories projected a spending plan of \$23.7 million in July 2020 and earned more than that, an estimated \$30 million.

Committee Chair Zettel commended the UC National Laboratories for their accomplishments and for maintaining the health and safety of Laboratory personnel during a challenging year.

3. **APPROVAL OF USE OF CAPITAL AND CAMPUS OPPORTUNITY FUND MONIES FOR POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM IN TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY**

The President of the University recommended that the President, or his delegate, be authorized to expend up to \$200,000 of Capital and Campus Opportunity Fund funds starting in UC Fiscal Year 2021–22 to establish a technology and international security postdoctoral fellowship pilot program.

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Vice President Leasure began the presentation by noting that the fee income earned over what was expected provided the flexibility that made this proposal possible. He explained that the Capital and Campus Opportunity Fund was established to foster increased collaboration between the Laboratories and campuses. This would be a postdoctoral fellowship program among Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), and the Institute on Global Conflict and Cooperation at UC San Diego. The program would be funded by these two Laboratories, with in-kind support from the San Diego campus, and would be located at the UC Washington Center (UCDC), which was chosen due to its proximity to policy experts. In addition to enhancing collaboration between the campuses and Laboratories, the program would present more opportunities for students in national security and other social science disciplines, more engagement at UCDC, more involvement in the wider national policy discourse, and it would build intellectual capacity systemwide in science, technology, nuclear, and international security issues. The program would also create a cohort of scholars interested

in the National Laboratories, as well as introduce a new pipeline into the UC National Laboratories work force. The program would be evaluated over time in order to determine if it should continue.

Regent Muwakkil praised the proposed program for its plans of active engagement and focus on relevant topics.

Regent Estolano asked how many fellowships would be funded. Mr. Leasure replied that, initially, the program would fund four to six people. This was a narrow subject area. The request was being made now because this was the time to attract participants into the program. Regent Estolano expressed her strong support for the program.

Committee Zettel asked whether the program would cover fellows' travel expenses. Mr. Leasure responded that the requested amount of \$200,000 would cover travel. The Laboratories would pay the postdoctoral salaries.

Committee Chair Zettel expressed confidence that the program would reach out to as diverse a group of potential fellows as possible. Mr. Leasure responded in the affirmative.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the President's recommendation and voted to present it to the Board, Regents Drake, Estolano, Kieffer, Mart, Pérez, Reilly, Sures, and Zettel voting "aye."

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff