

The Regents of the University of California

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

January 19, 2022

The Public Engagement and Development Committee met on the above date by teleconference meeting conducted in accordance with California Government Code §§ 11133.

Members present: Regents Guber, Hernandez, Lansing, Leib, Lott, Ortiz Oakley, Reilly, Sherman, and Torres; Advisory members Blas Pedral, Cochran, and Timmons; Chancellors Block, Larive, May, Muñoz, and Wilcox; Staff Advisor Tseng

In attendance: Regents Kounalakis and Zaragoza, Faculty Representative Horwitz, Staff Advisor Lakireddy, Assistant Secretary Lyall, Managing Counsel Shanle, Provost Brown, Senior Vice President Colburn, Vice President Leasure, and Recording Secretary Li

The meeting convened at 1:35 p.m. with Committee Chair Reilly presiding.

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

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of November 17, 2021 were approved, Regents Guber, Hernandez, Lansing, Leib, Ortiz Oakley, Reilly, Sherman, and Torres voting “aye.”¹

2. **CONVERSATION WITH SENATOR BILL DODD**

[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.]

Committee Chair Reilly introduced State Senator Bill Dodd, who represented California’s third Senate District, a region that included the Davis campus. Aside from championing State funding to the University, Senator Dodd has authored a number of UC-supported bills in areas such as wildfire prevention and mitigation, as well as UC-sponsored legislation in 2020 that would allow UC Davis to sell its student-produced wines. Committee Chair Riley thanked him for his advocacy of UC over the years.

Senator Dodd began his remarks by thanking the Regents for their service. He believed that UC’s daily contributions to innovation, the California economy, and civic-minded Californians were overlooked. The Legislature drew from UC research in the areas of wildfire, water and drought, transportation, and technology, and, in his view, should lean on the expertise of higher education systems for unbiased research. Systems of higher education must also produce a 21st century work force and future leaders of the State.

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

Senator Dodd underscored the importance of the constitutional autonomy of the UC system so that its policy is not subjected to the political whims of the Legislature. In his view, there was a clear line of demarcation that must be respected. Senator Dodd appreciated the recent progress UC has made with labor and thought it best to resolve issues in collective bargaining, not changes to State law or the State Constitution. He wished to continue providing an appropriate level of State General Fund support to the University. The State disinvested in its systems of higher education long ago; without consistent funding, it was difficult to keep tuition affordable given new programs and higher costs. He praised UC for keeping tuition as affordable as possible in the last seven years, adding that affordability and accessibility were the keys to UC's and the Legislature's success together in the future.

Committee Chair Reilly expressed gratitude for \$39 billion for higher education in Governor Newsom's proposed budget. She reiterated her appreciation for Senator Dodd's support of the University in the State budget process.

Regent Torres thanked Senator Dodd for his leadership during the recent wildfires.

Chancellor May thanked Senator Dodd for his friendship and advocacy on behalf of UC Davis initiatives and the entire University, which required much work behind the scenes. Senator Dodd was an important source of advice and support for him.

Regent Leib asked what more UC could do to address wildfires. Senator Dodd replied that the California Board of Forestry and Fire Protection was engaged in new efforts. Legislators from fire-prone districts needed better channels to provide feedback. While spending solely on fire suppression in the past, Governor Newsom and the Legislature proposed fire prevention and resiliency spending in the State budget. Some groups advocated for environmental protection, while others favored fire resiliency, and the State wished to do both. Regent Leib asked if the State sought more research on fire resiliency and forest thinning. Senator Dodd responded in the affirmative, noting the importance of peer review. Different groups cited conflicting research, and the State should lean on UC expertise.

Committee Chair Reilly asked Senator Dodd about his top three priorities for the state and for his district, and what ways the University could help him. Senator Dodd replied that he would continue to advocate for fire resiliency and prevention efforts at a two-to-one ratio. He projected that these efforts would take ten years unless the climate further changes the situation. Many climate policies had a 2040 target, but he was concerned about their potential impact on business and education. He had never voted against climate change legislation until last year, when he voted against Senate Bill 1395. He called for reaching carbon neutrality expeditiously, and he praised Governor Newsom's blueprint. In his view, California had time to achieve its climate goals and would do so. The state could achieve carbon neutrality by reengineering its transportation system, putting electric vehicles on roads, and testing renewable fuel for trucks. He also planned to make roads more resilient against rising sea levels and to address congestion relief with funding from tolls.

Regent Ortiz Oakley asked how UC could improve its relationship with the Legislature as new legislators join. Senator Dodd replied that the exit of legislators from the State Assembly and the Senate presented the University with an opportunity to develop new relationships with districts where UC did not previously have a relationship. He was very pleased with his interactions with State Governmental Relations and UC campuses. He noted that past perceptions were challenging to change. Committee Chair Reilly stated that these conversations with legislators were part of an ongoing effort, and that UC and the Legislature were working toward the same thing—a better California.

Senator Dodd praised Regent Kounalakis, who was well respected in the Legislature, for her detailed understanding and prioritizing of the issues. Regent Kounalakis thanked Senator Dodd for all he has done for the University.

3. **IMPACT OF UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA’S NATIONAL LABORATORIES**

[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.]

Committee Chair Reilly stated that this was the first presentation of the “UC in Your Community” series, which aimed to highlight the University’s positive impact on the surrounding community, such as economic or cultural benefits, better health care, and enhanced college readiness. The series would also highlight critical partnerships between campus and community, as well as opportunities to strengthen those partnerships.

Vice President Leasure described the history and positive impacts of UC’s operation of three National Laboratories in the context of UC’s teaching, research, and public service mission. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) was established in 1931 by Ernest Lawrence as a radiation laboratory at UC Berkeley; his “team science” approach is now known as interdisciplinary research. In 1943, Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL), then known as Project Y, was established with J. Robert Oppenheimer as director. Research from LANL culminated in the development of the atomic bomb. Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), established in 1952, was originally part of LBNL. In 2006, the LANL contract was awarded to what is now known as Triad National Security, LLC and led by UC, the Battelle Memorial Institute, and Texas A&M University. In 2007, the LLNL contract was awarded to a limited liability company led by UC and Bechtel.

One example of the University’s public service through its National Laboratories was involvement in the Human Genome Project. In 1997, the Joint Genome Institute was established at LBNL to coordinate this effort and has since transitioned to a National User Facility. At present, LBNL operated the U.S. Department of Energy’s (DOE) Energy Sciences Network (ESNet), which linked scientists from National Laboratories, universities, and research institutions and enabled collaboration on scientific challenges such as energy, climate, and the origins of the universe. ESNet provided access to unique DOE research facilities and resources. Curiosity, the original Mars rover, incorporated three LANL technologies, which analyzed the makeup of Mars rocks and soils, determined the composition of mineral samples, and provided heat and power to the rover. ChemCam,

for instance, produced high-resolution images of targets, vaporized them from meters away, and detected their elements. LANL also helped develop SuperCam on the Mars rover Perseverance. In August 2021, the National Ignition Facility (NIF) at LLNL achieved a yield of over 1.3 megajoules, a step toward fusion ignition, which was a potential energy source. NIF's central mission was to provide experimental insight and data for the National Nuclear Security Administration's Stockpile Stewardship and Management Plan.

In fiscal year 2020, LBNL was responsible for approximately 10,000 jobs in the Bay Area, 1,500 jobs in the rest of California, and 8,000 jobs nationwide. Also in FY 2020, LBNL had a total economic impact of over \$1.4 billion in the Bay Area, \$180 million in the rest of the state, and \$800 million nationally. About 50 percent of LBNL procurement came from small businesses, and 55 start-up companies came from LBNL in the last ten years, many of which were still active. Projects from Cyclotron Road, an LBNL fellowship program that supports entrepreneurial scientists, raised more than \$150 million and created more than 135 jobs over the last five years. LBNL has also contributed to Cooperative Research and Development Agreements, partnerships between the National Laboratory, University, and industry. In FY 2020, LLNL awarded over \$750 million of procurements nationwide, with roughly \$240 million in California. Over \$1 billion worth of products with LLNL technology have been sold worldwide. In FY 2020, LANL collaborated in over 7,000 projects with New Mexico small businesses, creating or maintaining over 10,000 jobs. LANL also procured over \$1 billion nationwide, with over \$650 million going to small businesses. UC has supported the National Laboratories' foundations. The Berkeley Lab Foundation gave donors the opportunity to support LBNL projects in the early stages of development. The Livermore Lab Foundation supported LLNL research and science, technology, engineering, and technology (STEM) programs. The LANL Foundation aimed to inspire education excellence in Northern New Mexico through innovative programming, collaboration, and advocacy.

The University has been recognized for its research excellence and integrity through its National Laboratories. LANL and LLNL Directors were required to submit an annual assessment of the health of the nuclear stockpile to the U.S. President and Congress. UC National Laboratory staff have won 14 Nobel Prizes and over 75 Ernest Orlando Lawrence Awards. In FY 2020, LBNL released about 2,000 publications. Over 50 percent of LBNL publications were in top scientific journals and were cited about twice as many times as other U.S. publications in the last 20 years. LANL had about 2,000 total open publications in FY 2020, only part of its research output since much of its work was classified. In FY 2020, LLNL had over 1,000 total open publications, with much of its work also classified.

UC-affiliated National Laboratories had robust student and postdoctoral fellowships. In 2020, LBNL hosted 520 postdoctoral researchers, 518 graduate and undergraduate students, and over 1,700 visiting scientists and engineers. LBNL's K-12 STEM outreach program has served over 2,000 local students through Laboratory tours, science fairs, apprenticeship programs, the Science Accelerating Girls' Engagement (SAGE) summer camp, and more. These have been virtual events during the pandemic. Also in 2020, LANL hosted 650 postdoctoral researchers and over 1,000 graduate and undergraduate students. LANL's K-12 programs in Northern New Mexico included high school internships and

hosting the DOE National Science Bowl. LANL also sponsored training programs, one at a local community college. In FY 2020, LLNL hosted about 150 postdoctoral researchers and over 300 graduate and undergraduate students. LLNL offered internships, participated in the National Consortium of Graduate Degrees for Minorities in Engineering and Science (GEM), and hosted K–12 programs in Northern California.

Regent Lansing asked Mr. Leasure to expound on the K–12 programs. Mr. Leasure responded that the DOE funded the National Laboratories primarily to engage in research, so the Laboratories put together funding for K–12 programs from several sources, such as Laboratory foundations. Many Laboratory staff also volunteered their own time. Regent Lansing praised these efforts and underscored the importance of outreach regarding these programs due to the crisis in STEM education.

Regent-designate Blas Pedral asked if minority student participation in programs has changed during the pandemic, and if the Laboratories changed how they reached out to minority communities. Mr. Leasure replied that minority students have been a focus for the Laboratories, which worked with campuses and organizations to bring in students. Despite difficulties during the pandemic, the Laboratories continued their outreach and education programs. In 2020, the Laboratories were able to host fewer students after transitioning to virtual internships, but in 2021, they began to bring students and staff back on-site. These were mostly summer programs, and it was unclear what would happen this summer. Mr. Leasure encouraged minority students to apply for work at the Laboratories.

Regent Hernandez shared that the GEM Fellowship helped him attend graduate school at UC Santa Barbara. Through a Cooperative Research and Development Agreement, he helped develop military technology at LLNL that was later used in mammography. Livermore Lab Foundation supported the Reaching for the Stars Foundation, a program he founded that promoted STEM careers. Mr. Leasure stated that the three Laboratory foundations were seeking donations and offered to connect potential donors.

Regent Hernandez, noting the differences in the UC National Laboratories' budgets, asked if funding would be more equitably allocated in the future. Mr. Leasure replied that all three Laboratories have seen significant budget increases in the last three years. Based on his experience at LANL, Mr. Leasure observed a divergence in funding about ten years ago. Sandia National Laboratories grew in that time. A large portion of the LANL budget was associated with production, and LLNL was engaged in less production. LBNL was constrained by the size of its site. All UC National Laboratories were currently hiring. He predicted that a reversion to the mean would occur between LANL and LLNL.

4. **STATE GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS UPDATE**

[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.]

Associate Vice President Kieran Flaherty stated that the State Legislature adjourned in September 2021 and reconvened in January for the final year of the legislative session.

Governor Newsom proposed \$213 billion in State General Fund expenditure, including \$4.6 billion for the University and the first of a multi-year compact between the Governor and UC. The compact comprised sustained, annual funding increases through 2026–27 so that UC could improve student access, excellence, equity, and affordability. In the first year, the University would receive a five percent ongoing base budget increase, or \$307 million in new, ongoing funds. UC would also receive \$295 million in one-time funds, most of which would go to UC's work in addressing climate change; this was in addition to climate resilience investments proposed for other State agencies. State Governmental Relations (SGR) would research opportunities with those agencies. Governor Newsom also proposed \$1.7 billion to the California Health and Human Services and Labor and Workforce Development Agencies to expand the healthcare work force. UC could receive funding for psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner training. Mr. Flaherty projected that the State budget bill would pass in June and likely be followed by amendments to budget and trailer bills. He recognized Governor Newsom, his staff, and the Legislature for their collaboration with UC.

Mr. Flaherty highlighted two-year bills of interest to UC. Senate Bill (SB) 379 was amended to remove all references to UC Health affiliations and would proceed as a bill with an entirely different topic. UC opposed SB 213, which would establish new rebuttable presumptions in workers' compensation for hospital employees, due to significantly increased costs that UC could not cover. The bill might be subject to another vote prior to the January deadline. Assembly Bill (AB) 1400, which pertained to single-payer health care, needed to pass in the Committee on Appropriations in order to proceed. Assembly Constitutional Amendment 11 was a companion tax increase. UC did not have a position on either bill at this time. Senate Constitutional Amendment (SCA) 5 would require the Board to have two Student Regents with full rights of participation, which would conform to the recent expansion of the California State University (CSU) Board of Trustees and the California Community Colleges Board of Governors. SGR was engaging with the office of State Senator Steve Glazer, the bill author, and tracking the bill but did not currently have a position. While few new bills had been introduced compared with other years, Mr. Flaherty predicted that the Legislature would introduce many more bills by the February deadline. AB 1602 would establish the California Student Housing Revolving Loan Fund, which would be funded with a \$5 billion State Budget Act appropriation. SGR was assessing these bills with experts and stakeholders, and would announce the University's positions in early March, when bills are set for policy committee hearings.

SGR was developing a digital advocacy campaign that would incorporate UC's many priorities and amplify existing efforts. Mr. Flaherty thanked the Regents for their engagement in Sacramento, particularly Regent Lansing for her advocacy of students. Regent Lansing thanked Mr. Flaherty for his guidance; she always felt prepared and would continue to advocate for UC after her term as Regent ends.

Committee Chair Reilly expressed optimism about the allocation to UC in Governor Newsom's proposed State budget. She offered the Regents' continued help with advocacy. Mr. Flaherty thanked Committee Chair Reilly for helping transition to virtual advocacy.

In response to observations made by Regent Zaragoza regarding SCA 5, Mr. Flaherty explained that the Board was established by the State Constitution, so changes to its composition required a constitutional amendment, while changes to the CSU Board of Trustees and the California Community Colleges Board of Governors were made via statute. Regent Zaragoza expressed her excitement for the change proposed in SCA 5; UC was the remaining segment of public higher education with one fully participating student Board member. She looked forward to further discussion of this topic. Committee Chair Reilly noted that SCA 5 would be discussed at length at an upcoming Committee meeting.

Regent-designate Blas Pedral highlighted the efforts of the UC Student Association and the UC Graduate and Professional Council in proposing what was now SCA 5 to elected officials. She invited Regents and SGR to contact her and Regent Zaragoza with questions.

5. **UPDATE ON STATE AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIPS AND BUDGET IMPACTS ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

[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.]

Senior Vice President Colburn stated that this topic illustrated the collaboration of State Governmental Relations (SGR) and Federal Governmental Relations (FGR) and their effect on the University's mission and operations. Responding to the climate crisis was a key priority for UC and the State and was an area where UC had unique capabilities. UC planned to combine communications, direct advocacy, and engagement of the UC Advocacy Network (UCAN) in a multi-layered digital campaign. SGR and FGR were working with the Office of the President (UCOP), the campuses, and the Regents to identify forums and partnerships to advance these efforts. Mr. Colburn recognized the creativity and work ethic of the SGR and FGR staff during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Associate Vice President Chris Harrington stated that FGR was working with the Biden administration and the California Congressional Delegation to seek funding from agencies that provided grants for climate research. Since 2016, the federal government has awarded to UC almost \$1 billion from 1,200 active federal grants for areas such as wildfire, water resource management, air pollution and quality, and sustainable materials and infrastructure. If the U.S. Congress finalizes FY 2022 spending this winter, accounts supporting UC climate research could see significant increases. In May, FGR briefed congressional staff about the ways UC was using federal funds to address wildfire. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act presented funding opportunities in the nearly \$30 billion allocation for climate research and establishment of climate resilience centers at universities. FGR was working with campuses, UCOP, medical centers, and others to identify possible funding opportunities; informing SGR how federal funds would flow to California; and advancing UC priorities with partners such as the Association of American Universities, Second Nature, and the Climate Leadership Network. The University was also decarbonizing its campuses and medical centers. In December, FGR coordinated a meeting between UC Health and the National Academy of Medicine to discuss decarbonizing the health sector and highlighted UC's carbon neutrality efforts and

scientific and workforce training initiatives. FGR would continue to advocate UC priorities in the Build Back Better Plan, such as funding increases to the Department of Energy, the National Science Foundation, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. Congress was encouraging agencies to set aside funding for wildfire research. The U.S. House of Representatives' version of the bill was stalled in December, but efforts were still under way in the U.S. Senate.

Associate Vice President Kieran Flaherty stated that Governor Newsom's proposed climate resilience plan would invest \$22.5 billion over five years in areas such as transportation, clean energy, and water storage. UC could qualify for funding through partnership with the State or leverage \$185 million in direct funding. UC and other institutions could compete for \$100 million in grants for climate resilience research that would require matching funds; seed funds used to pursue federal or private funding; and emergency funding for climate disaster preparedness and mitigation. There was potential for collaboration with other institutions. Fifty million dollars would go toward up to three new climate innovation and entrepreneurship centers that would expand on existing hubs established by State Assembly Bill (AB) 2664 in 2016 and create a focus on climate resilience. These funds would be distributed mostly as innovation grants, and UC would work toward tenfold matching. Thirty-five million dollars would fund intersegmental workforce development and training hubs offering science, technology, engineering, and mathematics certification for degree- and non-degree-seeking individuals. These hubs would advance climate-focused careers and a potential for work-study. The Senate's and Assembly's proposed budget plans both included climate priorities. SGR projected that climate would be a major policy focus for the Legislature in 2022; more than a dozen legislators attended the United Nations Climate Change Conference. A \$7 billion bond for climate change prevention was not proceeding, but Governor Newsom was advancing his climate priorities through his proposed plan.

Mr. Colburn noted that issue-specific State research funding once ranged from \$5 million to \$20 million, not \$100 million. There was an increase in interest and potential support. He thanked Provost Brown, Vice President Maldonado, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Brostrom, and the Office of the CFO staff for their help.

Regent Leib thanked Mr. Flaherty for informing the Special Committee on Innovation Transfer and Entrepreneurship about AB 2664 funding, which was used to fund projects. The Special Committee was working with Mr. Brostrom to make AB 2664 a priority for UC. Regent Leib hoped that AB 2664 funding could be used for a proof of concept fund.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff