

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