

THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

March 15, 2023

The Regents of the University of California met on the above date at the UCSF-Mission Bay Conference Center, San Francisco campus and by teleconference meeting conducted in accordance with California Government Code §§ 11133.

Members present: Regents Anguiano, Blas Pedral, Chu, Cohen, Drake, Elliott, Hernandez, Leib, Makarechian, Matosantos, Park, Pérez, Pouchot, Robinson, Sherman, Sures, and Timmons

In attendance: Regents-designate Ellis, Raznick, and Tesfai, Faculty Representatives Cochran and Steintrager, Secretary and Chief of Staff Lyall, General Counsel Robinson, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Brostrom, Executive Vice President Byington, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Nava, Provost Newman, Senior Vice President Colburn, Vice Presidents Brown and Gullatt, Chancellors Block, Christ, Gillman, Hawgood, Khosla, Larive, May, Muñoz, Wilcox, and Yang, and Recording Secretary Li

The meeting convened at 8:40 a.m. with Chair Leib presiding.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Leib explained that the public comment period permitted members of the public an opportunity to address University-related matters. The following persons addressed the Board concerning the items noted.

- A. Misha Choudhry, UC Riverside graduate student, urged the University to include caste as a protected category in UC's systemwide Anti-Discrimination Policy, as it was not included in the draft revision of the policy. Ms. Choudhry stated that caste discrimination was rampant across the South Asian diaspora, and that UC Davis, the California State University system, and the City of Seattle have added caste as a protected category. UC had an opportunity to be the first and largest university system in the U.S. to protect students, staff, and faculty in this way.
- B. Fred Keeley, mayor of the City of Santa Cruz, asked the Regents to support the UC Santa Cruz Student Housing West project given the impact that UC had on rental housing in the area. Mr. Keeley stated that UCSC was an extraordinary benefit to the Santa Cruz community, and that this project was part of maintaining that positive relationship. The Santa Cruz City Council authorized him to engage in dialogue regarding the UCSC Long Range Development Plan (LRDP).
- C. Sam Saxe-Taller, UC Davis student, expressed disappointment that the Regents have not convened a meeting to discuss the Academic Senate memorial on reducing fossil fuel combustion. Mr. Saxe-Taller stated that the University's draft climate

protection policy, which included a 30 percent reduction in carbon emissions by 2030 and carbon neutrality by 2045, was not ambitious enough and fell behind State and local goals. He urged the Regents and President Drake to work with campuses to enact a climate protection policy with more ambitious goals.

- D. Sky Yang, President of the Associated Students of UC San Diego, asked the Regents to prioritize the Ridge Walk North Living and Learning Neighborhood project at UCSD. The project would add 2,444 beds and provide students with affordable, on-campus housing and a positive college experience. The project would help the campus achieve its four-year undergraduate housing guarantee and would be accessible via campus trolley system.
- E. Chris Nielsen, member of the UCSD Chancellor's Advisory Board, spoke in support of the Ridge Walk North Living and Learning Neighborhood project, which would offer over 2,400 undergraduate beds, academic space for a "small college" experience, and a 15-minute walk to the central campus trolley system and bus service. The project would relieve pressure on the surrounding housing community.
- F. Derede Arthur, UC Santa Cruz lecturer and member of the UCSC Climate Coalition, urged the Regents to adopt the Academic Senate memorial on reducing fossil fuel combustion. Although the UC draft climate protection policy would require that campuses complete decarbonization studies by 2025 and a recent revision removed language about the reliance on carbon offsets, carbon neutrality, and "net zero," Ms. Arthur believed that the goals set were insufficient.
- G. Kay Sosin, UC Riverside student, stated that the Community Safety Plan published by the Office of the President (UCOP) omitted the input of students, and that the similar titles and uniforms of UCR police department community safety responders and the UCR Campus Safety Escort Service (CSES) defied the Plan's intent to diversify campus safety response. Ms. Sosin stated that student safety programs managed independently of UC police should be the standard.
- H. Elaine Johnson, Executive Director of Housing Santa Cruz County, asked the Regents to fund the Student Housing West project. She stated that the project would provide a place of retreat for students and lift the burden on the City of Santa Cruz, Santa Cruz County, and UCSC students and their families.
- I. Jeffry Umaña Muñoz, UCLA student, demanded that UC implement the proposed strategy of the Opportunity for All campaign. He stated that the infrastructure for the program already exists in California, and that implementation would not increase the risk of deportation for undocumented students. Mr. Muñoz added that undocumented students have enrolled at UC without Deferred Action for Child Arrivals (DACA) status for years.
- J. Eden Potgieter, UC Berkeley student, shared that it took over a year to receive aid from an education specialist inside the classroom. The UCB disabled student

population has increased about five-fold while funding has increased about 30 percent. More disability services funding was needed as enrollment grows. UC Merced had one disability services coordinator for the entire student body.

- K. Vincent Rasso, representative of the Campaign for College Opportunity, encouraged the University to adopt the Associate Degree for Transfer (ADT) program and an ADT admission guarantee systemwide. He also urged UC to combine efforts to implement the California Community Colleges–UC Transfer Task Force’s fourth recommendation with efforts to implement Assembly Bill 928.
- L. Anne Berry, UC Santa Barbara graduate student, called on UC to prioritize graduate student housing and basic needs. Ms. Berry stated that the high cost of living and graduate students’ low wages created barriers to success and opportunity for students from low-income backgrounds, and that Munger Hall was not the answer.
- M. Tim Willoughby, Chair of Affordable Housing NOW, spoke in support of the Student Housing West project. He stated that, last fall, UCSC experienced a significant housing shortage due to a lack of off-campus housing and students used hotel accommodations in response to this issue. The housing shortage also drove up rent for staff, faculty, and members of the community, with many commuting long distances to campus. This project would help address the statewide housing crisis.
- N. Melissa Chao, Senior Planner for the City of Irvine, relayed the City’s objection to the approval of the UC Irvine Mesa Court Residence Hall Expansion project. She stated that the trip generation rates in the project’s mitigated negative declaration (MND) required further clarification, the energy analysis did not discuss the incorporation of renewable energy, and the conclusion about energy impact was unsupported. The City asked UCI to address the issues detailed in its comment letter and to recirculate the MND prior to project approval.
- O. Leonardo Rodriguez, UC Berkeley student and former member of the California Student Aid Commission (CSAC), called on UC to support the Opportunity for All campaign. According to a CSAC report, 14 percent of California’s undocumented college students received financial aid in 2021–22. The report recommended exploring ways that undocumented college graduates could obtain State work authorization.
- P. Grant Goldman, UCSF student, read comments from Sarah Arveson, Vice President of United Auto Workers (UAW) 5810. Ms. Arveson called on UCOP to provide direction to the campuses on the implementation of the new UAW contract. Postdoctoral researchers were facing layoffs and rescinded appointments because principal investigators claimed that they could not afford pay raises. UAW members have brought in billions of dollars in grant money and generated world-class research. UC should not invest in Blackstone and invest in workers instead.

- Q. Nathan McCall, UCSC staff member and delegate of the Council of UC Staff Assemblies (CUCSA), thanked the Regents for approving a 4.6 percent salary increase for non-represented staff. Mr. McCall proposed that UC tie non-represented staff increases to represented staff's average wage increase in any given year to help with staff retention. He stated that UC leadership's response was that such a proposal would cause the UC budget to lose flexibility. In his view, the University regarded non-represented staff's salary increases as optional.
- R. Belinda Egan, UCSC staff member and member of Teamsters Local 2010, stated that the University was disregarding the accretion process for librarians who won union representation and joined the Teamsters Clerical and Allied Services (CX) unit. Librarians sought economic recognition of the months between accretion and the effective date of the new CX contract. Ms. Egan called on the University to agree to compensation beginning in March 2022.
- S. Darlene Simpson, Chair of the Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment Action (ACCE) Blackstone Tenants Union, urged the University to divest from Blackstone, one of the largest funders of campaigns to prevent local jurisdictions from enacting strong rent control, and to invest in high-quality housing that California families could afford.
- T. Jackie Patrick, UCSF Benioff Children's Hospital staff member and member of the National Union of Healthcare Workers, called for a labor contract that protected union members. Ms. Patrick asked that UCSF provide staff with ample warning before any consolidation or service reduction that would result in layoffs or affect patient care so that people have enough time to seek new employment.
- U. Natisha Booker, UC Davis Medical Center staff member and member of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) 3299, stated that her wages, about \$22 per hour, were not enough to support herself and her family. She detailed her monthly expenses and added that she had a second job to afford the high cost of living. Ms. Booker called on UC to raise the minimum wage to \$25 per hour, increase by five percent the pay of those already making \$25 per hour, divest from Blackstone, and invest in affordable housing.
- V. Maria Rodriguez, UCD Medical Center staff member and member of AFSCME 3299, asked the University to raise worker pay. Ms. Rodriguez earned \$22.71 per hour and struggled to pay rent, childcare, and other expenses.
- W. Sarah Guzman, organizer for the ACCE Blackstone Tenants Union, demanded that UC divest from Blackstone. She stated that UC was funding and benefitting from a housing crisis in which tenants faced habitability issues, high rent, and evictions. She stated that the Blackstone Tenants Union would return to call for divestment.

2. REMARKS OF THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD

Chair Leib began his remarks by emphasizing the impact that the University had on students' academic excellence and economic mobility. He thanked the chancellors and his fellow Board members for their dedication, and President Drake and Governor Newsom for their leadership. Chair Leib announced that the new UC Center Sacramento (UCCS) was opening later this year and would be a gathering place for legislators, policy makers, students, and academics. Through the new Center, the University hoped to deepen its connection with the State; leverage UC research and expertise to solve State, national and global problems; and create more educational opportunities for students from various disciplines. UCCS interns would also have a facility. Chair Leib recognized Regent Reilly, Regents Emeriti Joanne Kozberg, George Kieffer, and Peter Taylor, as well as UCCS Board Chair Thomas McMorrow for their efforts.

At a future meeting, the Board would consider the establishment of a Special Committee on Athletics to be chaired by Regent Hernandez. The Board was also forming a task force to explore potential new sources of State and federal funding that would be led by Regent Matosantos. The Special Committee on Innovation Transfer and Entrepreneurship has been helping implement 14 recommendations made by the Regents Working Group on Innovation Transfer and Entrepreneurship in 2021. These recommendations included reforms, increased investment, and modernization. To date, six recommendations have been implemented or converted into solutions awaiting adoption. These included passing equity management and legal and policy compliance to the campuses, as well as determining how faculty-led innovation and entrepreneurship could be credited in the promotion and tenure process. The remaining eight recommendations were at varying stages of implementation. He recognized President Drake and Provost Newman for their leadership. The Special Committee was sunseting in September, and Chair Leib invited Regents to participate in its remaining meetings. Chair Leib also highlighted items on the agenda and noted that March was Women's History Month, adding that the Board of Regents voted to admit women two years after the University was founded.

3. REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

President Drake stated that the University's basic needs efforts were evolving rapidly as students' needs and expectations change, due in part to the COVID-19 pandemic, inflation, and labor costs, and he expressed gratitude to the State for providing ongoing basic needs funding. Housing affordability was a difficult issue not only at the University, but across the state and country as well. UC has been actively pursuing opportunities to expand housing but faced growing labor and construction costs. Last month, the California appeals court ruled against UC Berkeley on a housing project. UC would support the Berkeley campus in its appeal and work with State and local leaders to protect the environment, respect neighbors, and provide housing to students. President Drake acknowledged the efforts of Governor Newsom and legislators as they address related issues with regard to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). He expressed pride in the relentless efforts of UC leadership and staff to support students, and gratitude to students for voicing their concerns.

President Drake noted that the University was also working to improve systemwide reporting of equity gaps to help more students graduate on time and accelerate UC's progress toward its goals. Thanks to a major reinvestment in the 2022–23 State budget, UC was expanding its portfolio of Student Academic Preparation and Educational Partnerships (SAPEP) programs. President Drake noted that about one-third of UC students transferred from a community college. He looked forward to partnering with the new Chancellor of the California Community Colleges, Sonya Christian, to further streamline the transfer process. The University was also working with United Auto Workers (UAW) and the Academic Senate on implementing new labor contracts with academic workers, graduate student employees, postdoctoral scholars, and academic researchers. Some aspects of the contracts were unprecedented and would take time to implement. President Drake clarified that no graduate student employees needed to be laid off as a result of these contracts, and UC intended to meet its graduate student enrollment goal of 2,500 new students by 2026–27 per the Governor's funding Compact. Campus departments needed to balance their budgets, and some might need to reduce costs.

The University recently announced \$15 million in research grants for developing scalable climate solutions. This was part of the \$185 million that the State allocated to UC last year to tackle the climate crisis. Later this year, UC would award an additional \$80 million toward this work. Last month, 17 early career faculty from six campuses were selected as 2023 Sloan Research Fellows. UC faculty made up more than 13 percent of the new awardees, more than any other public university.

4. **REMARKS OF THE CHAIR OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE**

Faculty Representative Cochran stated that, as machines engage in more complicated interactions with humans, UC students would be competing with these machines in their careers. Competencies that students would need to succeed included skills to motivate oneself and others; critical thinking about information from credible and non-credible sources; and a greater capacity to be innovative and entrepreneurial. Ms. Cochran shared examples of ways UC was improving the educational pipeline so that students could stay ahead of machines. The UC Academic Senate partnered with the Academic Senates of the California Community Colleges and the California State University (CSU) to create the General Education Transfer Curriculum (Cal-GETC), which community college students would use to complete lower division general education requirements to transfer to CSU or UC. Last year, the Academic Senate considered whether UC should offer fully online undergraduate degrees and found that institutions offering these degrees did so through affiliated but separate administrative structures, such as extension programs or fully online campuses. Courses for degree completion needed careful articulation and involved growth opportunities outside of the classroom. Ms. Cochran questioned whether this could be replicated online or if students would be forced to choose between on-campus and online degrees. The Academic Senate identified a potential loophole in the University's requirement that all undergraduate students be required to complete at least one year in residence. Given the growth in the number of courses offered online since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, students could create ad hoc, unapproved online degrees, potentially running afoul of UC's accreditor and federal financial aid rules. In response, the Academic

Senate voted to revise Academic Senate Regulations 610 and 630, which now required at least six units of in-person instruction per quarter or semester for a minimum of one year, with exceptions for certain off-campus programs and Americans with Disabilities Act accommodations. This revision enabled campuses to experiment with online major and minor programs, hybrid programs, and alternative modes of course delivery, and it would allow the student body to grow by limiting the amount of time students need to be on campus. UC would continue to offer fully online graduate degrees. The Academic Senate wished to create an environment in which departments could innovate and students could choose the modes of instruction that work best for them and are fully inclusive.

5. UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BASIC NEEDS ANNUAL REPORT, 2021–22

[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.]

Provost Newman introduced the item, an overview of the University’s progress on the goal to reduce by half student food and housing insecurity by 2025, which was set in the final report of the Special Committee on Basic Needs. UC defined basic needs as the minimum resources to support students holistically in their daily lives. Basic needs included food and housing security, financial stability, transportation, technology, child and dependent care, and health and wellness support. Meeting students’ needs in higher education was informed by federal and State policies, local campus contexts, resources, and community networks. In 2021–22, the University focused on three primary strategies: increasing student utilization of public benefits, greater investment in financial aid, and improving data collection and evaluation of efforts. Trained staff were on campus to guide students through the CalFresh application process, and UC partnered with the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) and the Center for Healthy Communities to expand campus-based local programs that increase employability (LPIE) to more students. In the Student Tuition Stability Plan, return-to-aid was increased from 33 to 45 percent. All campuses now had benchmarks and indicators to evaluate services, resources, and support. Undergraduate food insecurity decreased nine percent from 2018 to 2020 but increased four percent from 2020 to 2022, during the height of the pandemic. Undergraduate housing insecurity increased one percent from 2020 to 2022. Graduate food insecurity declined by five percent from 2018 to 2020, and housing insecurity declined by two percent between 2016 and 2021. The UC Undergraduate Student Experience Survey (UCUES) was taken at the beginning of the pandemic, when students were less likely to respond, and in 2022, when COVID-related programs were being phased out. Overall, food insecurity decreased for graduate and undergraduate students between 2018 and 2022. Since 2017, UC has made annual improvements to how it estimates indirect education costs for undergraduate students. In 2021–22, UC implemented a minimum amount for monthly grocery expenses.

Genie Kim, Director of Student Mental Health and Well-Being, stated that, last year, over 72,000 unique students utilized basic needs services across all ten campuses and over 8,000 students were provided housing support. Campuses offered resources such as food pantries, mobile food distribution, case management, meal vouchers, and emergency grants. These grants were used primarily for housing support, and the majority of these

grants served underrepresented students, first-generation students, and students with dependents. In 2023, UC was continuing to assess and evaluate what enabled and what were barriers to basic needs. The University was working with CDSS to build relationships with County liaisons in accordance with Assembly Bill 1326 and was advocating the removal of barriers to CalFresh, particularly as temporary expansions to CalFresh were to expire following the end of the public health emergency period. UC was developing new programming for former foster youth, students affected by the carceral system, and undocumented students, and planned to conduct more research and collect more data.

UC Merced Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Charles Nies remarked that financial aid should not only be viewed from a resource allocation standpoint but from a policy standpoint as well. Such a policy would help UC identify who requires assistance earlier, which would help prevent basic needs insecurity. He stated that a food insecure student indicated UC's failure to anticipate needs and build automatic programs for financial stability. In order to use financial aid to prevent basic needs insecurity, UC needed continued investment in its financial aid programs, better targeting, and more efficient coordination. Mr. Nies recognized the Regents for increasing return-to-aid and the student advocacy for the Double the Pell campaign and the Cal Grant Equity Framework.

Executive Director of Student Financial Support Shawn Brick explained that, due to the generosity of the Cal Grant, two-thirds of the UC Grant and Pell Grant could cover non-tuition expenses. Regardless of the University's best efforts to meet student needs, some students will have life experiences that do not match what is provided to them in financial aid, necessitating basic needs centers and emergency grant funding. Per the recommendations of the Total Cost of Attendance Working Group, UC has changed how it estimates food and housing costs and miscellaneous or technology fees. UC could use data from basic needs centers and surveys to determine if some groups experience more insecurity and then use policy to better target financial aid. In 2024–25, the federal government was replacing the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) with the Student Aid Index, which would provide greater detail and accuracy. Comparing modeling using the Student Aid Index with UCUES food insecurity findings, the University found that the new calculation would better identify the greatest need. Mr. Brick recognized the impact of the last five years of basic needs advocacy by students and the opportunity to do more. He concluded his remarks by sharing information about the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP), a \$30 subsidy to cover internet costs from the Federal Communications Commission. Pell Grant recipients and those who qualify for CalFresh were eligible for ACP. The University was working to develop an enrollment strategy.

Adriana Vasquez Vargas, a UC Merced undergraduate student and CalFresh advocate, shared her experience seeking resources when transitioning from remote to in-person learning. The cost of living in Merced had increased last year, and Ms. Vasquez Vargas used financial aid and government stimulus to cover the added expenses. She used the campus food pantry and applied for CalFresh but her benefits were delayed due to issues with verification documents. During that time, Ms. Vasquez Vargas was unable to eat proper meals and her health and grades declined. Following closures and the delayed reopening of campus eateries, she called for campus markets that were affordable and

accepted Electronic Benefits Transfer (EBT). Transportation into the local community was also limited, which constricted student access to food. Many students had to work because they received little to no financial support from guardians or insufficient financial aid. She stated that her experience was not unique and that UC must do more to remove barriers.

Regent Cohen acknowledged the impact of the pandemic and asked why UC did not make progress in addressing basic needs insecurity from 2020 to 2022 despite increased effort. Ms. Newman responded that, in her view, the situation would have been worse without these efforts and that it would take time to understand their effectiveness. Ms. Kim cautioned against focusing on the pandemic years. Heather King, Project and Policy Analyst for Basic Needs at the Office of the President (UCOP), agreed that one must look at longer-term trends. Food and housing budgets were affected by the pandemic, inflation, housing shortages, and rising rent. Financial aid information and student experiences would best inform programming and policy. Mr. Nies stated that financial aid awards did not anticipate added food and housing costs during the transition to in-person instruction. Mr. Brick regarded the results from 2020 as anomalous since many students were living at home and UC had more federal emergency grant funding. In 2021, there was a dramatic reduction in loan borrowing for similar reasons.

Regent Cohen asked how UC was responding to the expiration of federal emergency grant funding and if there was an expedited process for students to gain CalFresh eligibility. Ms. Kim replied that basic needs centers were preparing for the end of the public health emergency, and UCOP was working with these centers and the Counties to develop better strategies to educate students about CalFresh and streamline enrollment processes. Systemwide Basic Needs Committee Co-Chair Ruben Canedo stated that anti-hunger and anti-poverty advocates were recognizing the needs of college students, and the University's relationships with CDSS and other agencies have improved. However, local government lacked capacity to implement the new legislation clarifying the CalFresh application process. UC also lacked consistent access to data on student CalFresh approval rates and was working with CDSS and other agencies to receive these data.

Chair Leib asked if the University needed Counties to provide more resources. Mr. Canedo replied that Counties had high turnover of eligibility workers and limited capacity to train individuals to work with college students. Training also differed by County. UC was working with Counties so that all eligibility workers are trained to help college students.

Regent Anguiano asked what was known about EBT-eligible establishments across UC. Systemwide Basic Needs Committee Co-Chair Tim Galarneau replied that best practices for becoming an EBT vendor have been shared with campus dining and auxiliary services and more have committed to doing so. Previously, UC Berkeley and UC Santa Barbara identified barriers such as vender applications requiring Social Security numbers and personal bank information. Medical center retail sites and prepared meal programs were also being explored.

Regent Anguiano asked what challenges were anticipated next year. Mr. Galarneau replied that, following their ten campus visits, he and Mr. Canedo learned that basic needs staff were fatigued from working as frontline essential workers during the pandemic. UC basic

needs leaders planned to meet at UC San Diego in July to discuss topics such as affordable housing and communicating data to County and regional partners. Mr. Nies stated that UC Merced was working to tailor its approach for distinct populations within student groups.

Regent Park noted that the end of the public health emergency was brought to the Regents' attention nine months ago, and she recalled asking how many students would lose benefits as a result. Ms. King explained that the public health emergency allowed work-study-eligible students an EFC of zero to qualify for CalFresh. In June, students would no longer be able to apply under those eligibility requirements, and UC was discussing with CDSS how to address this. The University needed to increase tracking of CalFresh approvals and denials, but this required coordinating data systems and addressing privacy issues. New legislation now allowed University LPIE to qualify for an exemption in which LPIE participants could qualify for CalFresh. UC was working with the Center for Healthy Communities to add UC programs to the exemption to mitigate the effects of the end of the public health emergency. Access to data was not entirely within the University's control. Regent Park stated that she had only recently learned of the LPIE approach and asked what has been done in the last nine months to preserve students' benefits.

Regent Park asked about developments with regard to Proposition 63 funding since spring 2021, when UC expressed support for the legislation. Ms. Kim stated that, since then, UC has successfully advocated for \$15 million in ongoing funding for student mental health to augment existing services as well as expand services to address equity gaps. Campuses were in the process of implementing proposed strategies. UC also advocated for the inclusion of individuals up to age 25 in the State's Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative, because many students within that age group experienced first-episode psychosis. UC has not been able to obtain new Proposition 63 funding but was using the aforementioned new funding. Regent Park called for a deeper discussion about the pursuit of funding sources in the Health Services Committee or the Academic and Student Affairs Committee.

Regent Park asked that, in future reporting to the Board, data regarding basic needs services provided to students be contextualized. She noted that the number of instances of service provided varied widely by campus.

Regent Blas Pedral asked if Cal Grant recipients could automatically be opted into CalFresh and what Regents could do to support progress toward UC's basic needs goals. Mr. Nies responded that CalFresh eligibility involved multiple agencies. A student who qualified for the Cal Grant did not necessarily qualify for CalFresh. The California Student Aid Commission issued a report on CalFresh that has led to legislative changes.

Regent Pérez called for the involvement of UC State Governmental Relations (SGR). Four years ago, he had suggested looking at the way legislation addressed enrollment issues in the California Healthy Families program by tying eligibility to free and reduced cost lunch eligibility. The Legislature could lift restrictions on the Student Aid Commission, but compelling advocacy was needed. Regent Pérez acknowledged that advocacy would be more difficult this year due to State budget constraints. He stated that bureaucratic barriers

should not frustrate UC's efforts. An approach that works for UC could result in a structural change to access to nutrition for students across the different segments of public education.

Regent-designate Tesfai asked if there would be a dashboard displaying data from specific student populations and if rent burden was being considered as a factor of housing insecurity. Students with unstable living conditions have likely been in distress for some time. In his view, the numbers presented seemed low and did not reflect what he had heard from student groups. Many students were not experiencing housing insecurity as defined, but so much of their budgets were going to housing. Ms. Newman opined that rent burden would be one of the best predictive metrics for preventing housing insecurity. Mr. Brick replied that there was a basic needs dashboard that could provide more detailed information. UC was working to link basic needs data to students' financial aid information to make policy changes. Ms. Kim recognized the faculty researchers who were developing metrics to determine the drivers of basic needs insecurity. UC was focusing on food and housing because data were available from student surveys, but basic needs include all resources that students need.

In response to a question by Regent Blas Pedral about what Regents could do to support these efforts, Ms. Kim stated that UC must consider basic needs broadly and holistically because there were independent and dependent variables affecting food and housing insecurity. More data was needed to demonstrate improvement, and UCOP was collaborating with financial aid offices and UC Health to understand how to best serve populations affected by basic needs challenges. There was no singular approach. Mr. Canedo recalled that Regent Pérez's suggestions had influenced advocacy to improve LPIE. UCOP was working with campus human resources offices to inform students when an on-campus job qualifies for the LPIE exemption for CalFresh. UCOP was also working with campuses to commit consistently to providing emergency housing. Mr. Canedo stated that the University must match State funding in response to inflation and increased student need. He called for advocacy to annually adjust State support for market changes.

Regent-designate Raznick asked if income eligibility guidelines for CalFresh were accounting for certain groups of people and contributing to some of the food insecurity that students were experiencing. He noted, for instance, that the income requirement for food banks was lower than CalFresh. Mr. Canedo replied that CalFresh income eligibility for graduate students was very complex, and that UC was sharing what it has learned from graduate and professional student applications with CDSS. The University was working with agencies to issue an all-County letter regarding income determination for college students and a new toolkit for all Counties on college students and social services. UCSF Associate Professor Suzanna Martinez was working with Institutional Research and Academic Planning and the campuses to better capture data.

Regent-designate Ellis noted that financial aid deposits triggered the Social Security Income (SSI) limit and suggested that the University create programs that do not conflict with other public assistance.

Chair Leib asked if UC was pursuing Proposition 63 funding. Chair Leib also asked for the number of CalFresh-eligible UC students and how many campuses had County staff embedded to help students with applications.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Attest:

The Secretary and Chief of Staff