The Regents of the University of California

NATIONAL LABORATORIES COMMITTEE
January 18, 2023

The National Laboratories Committee met on the above date at the Luskin Conference Center, Los Angeles campus and by teleconference meeting conducted in accordance with California Government Code §§ 11133.

Members present: Regents Chu, Cohen, Hernandez, Kounalakis, Matosantos, Reilly, Sures, and Timmons; Ex officio members Drake and Leib; Advisory members Cochran and Powell; Chancellor Hawgood; Staff Advisor Mackness

In attendance: Regents Park and Sherman, Faculty Representative Steintrager, Secretary and Chief of Staff Lyall, General Counsel Robinson, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Brostrom, Executive Vice President Byington, Vice Presidents Brown and Leasure, and Recording Secretary Li

The meeting convened at 4:25 p.m. with Committee Chair Sures presiding.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of September 21, 2022 were approved, Regents Hernandez, Leib, Matosantos, Reilly, Sures, and Timmons voting “aye.”

2. APPROVAL OF USE OF CAPITAL AND CAMPUS OPPORTUNITY FUND MONIES TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDCARE FACILITY FOR LOS ALAMOS NATIONAL LABORATORY COMMUNITY

The President of the University recommended that the President, or their delegate, be authorized to expend up to an additional $1.5 million of Capital and Campus Opportunity Fund funds to support the development of a childcare facility for the Los Alamos National Laboratory workforce and community.

[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 recalled that the Regents had approved $500,000 of the requested amount for this project at the September 2022 meeting and had asked UC National Laboratories to return to the Regents with a more detailed estimate for the project. Mr. Leasure presented a map indicating the proposed location of the childcare facility, which would be in close proximity to Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The facility would be comprised of four buildings totaling 11,000 square feet. Mr. Leasure then

1 Roll call vote required by the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act [Government Code §11123(b)(1)(D)] for all meetings held by teleconference.
presented a detailed cost estimate for the project. Triad LLC was in talks with local entities in order to secure a childcare provider. The amount requested would fund the renovation of those buildings for use as a childcare facility. Operations would be a separate matter that Triad LLC, the childcare provider, and the landlord would address.

Committee Chair Sures explained that this proposal was borne out of his visit to LANL, during which he met constituents who had a strong desire for a childcare facility.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the President’s recommendation and voted to present it to the Board, Regents Chu, Drake, Hernandez, Kounalakis, Leib, Reilly, Sures, and Timmons voting “aye.”

3. APPROVAL TO SUBMIT BID FOR THE CONTRACT TO MANAGE FREDERICK NATIONAL LABORATORY FOR CANCER RESEARCH

The President of the University recommended that the President or his delegate be authorized to execute all necessary and appropriate documents to effect submission of a bid on behalf of the University’s team for the contract to manage Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research.

[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 introduced the item. The Regents had previously approved use of National Laboratory fee reserves to develop the proposal to manage Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research. The University’s principles of public service, research integrity and excellence, and commitment to education aligned with the goals of the National Institutes of Health, the National Cancer Institute (NCI), and National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID). UC’s National Laboratories leadership experience and strong biomedical research capabilities, as demonstrated by UC Health, were key to successfully competing and managing this National Laboratory. The University would propose to operate Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research for up to 25 years. The University maintained reserve funds for a performance guarantee required by the federal government. The risks associated with operating Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research were similar to those of UC’s other National Laboratories, if not lower. A multi-month transition period would follow the selection of new management. With the Regents’ approval, the University would submit its proposal to the National Cancer Institute no later than February 21, 2023.

Executive Vice President Byington thanked the Regents for approving the funds used to prepare the proposal, Mr. Leasure for his vision, UC Health Chief Clinical Officer Anne Foster, for her coordination, and the faculty and staff who helped prepare the proposal. She recalled that Mr. Leasure had brought this opportunity to her attention prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. This was a once-in-a-generation opportunity for the University, and particularly UC Health, to contribute its expertise to advance UC’s public service mission to the state and nation. Cancer was the second leading cause of death in the United States,
and Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research was the only U.S. National Laboratory entirely dedicated to biomedical research. The University has had a long and productive partnership with the National Cancer Institute, with five NCI-Designated Cancer Centers in the UC system. Dr. Byington looked forward to UC’s continued partnership with NIAID as well. The proposal has taken 2.5 years to prepare.

President Drake stated that managing Frederick National Laboratory would align well with existing efforts at UC medical centers and would complement research conducted at UC National Laboratories.

Regent Hernandez asked who else was submitting bids and if the incumbent would be submitting a bid. Mr. Leasure replied that it was difficult to know who else was bidding but expressed belief that the incumbent was likely bidding.

In response to a question from Committee Chair Sures, Mr. Leasure replied that the incumbent currently managing Frederick National Laboratory for Cancer Research was Leidos Biomedical Research.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Committee approved the President’s recommendation and voted to present it to the Board, Regents Chu, Cohen, Drake, Hernandez, Kounalakis, Leib, Reilly, Sures, and Timmons voting “aye.”

4. **ANNUAL REPORT ON FISCAL YEAR 2022 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 explained that the Department of Energy’s (DOE) Office of Science rated Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) based on eight goals and used an A–F rubric. Funding organizations within DOE also provided input. LBNL received an “A” for the first goal of science, one of only three National Laboratories to receive such a score, and received an “A minus” for the remaining goals. LBNL scored the highest of any National Laboratory stewarded by the Office of Science. Mr. Leasure shared the rating for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), which was provided by the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) and under embargo. LLNL received 91.2 percent and received very good feedback on Laboratory management. LLNL’s recent fusion ignition experiment was featured on television in an episode of “60 Minutes” and would be presented in the report for fiscal year 2023. The University’s contract with Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC would end in 2026. Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) received an overall score of 87 percent, a better score than Mr. Leasure expected. The University’s contract with Triad LLC was extended to 2028, which demonstrated the federal government’s confidence in that team.

Regent Reilly congratulated the UC National Laboratories for these ratings and thanked Mr. Leasure for hosting her and Regent Hernandez during their trip to LANL.
Regent Cohen asked Mr. Leasure to expound on the LANL score. Mr. Leasure replied that the NNSA noted issues regarding operational performance due to a water leak in a key facility that contaminated several rooms. The operations portion of the score was weighted heavily. LANL scored well in the categories of mission and science.

Committee Chair Sures asked if LANL’s score was consistent with what it had received in previous years. Mr. Leasure replied in the affirmative, adding that LANL also received 87 percent last year. He projected that LANL would receive a better score in the coming year.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff