

The Regents of the University of California

NATIONAL LABORATORIES COMMITTEE

January 22, 2025

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

Members present: Regents Beharry, Hernandez, Kounalakis, Pack, and Salazar; Ex officio member Reilly; Advisory members Palazoglu and Powell; Chancellors Hawgood, Larive, and May; Staff Advisor Frías

In attendance: Regents Anguiano, Batchlor, Elliott, Leib, Makarechian, and Sarris, Regents-designate Brooks, Komoto, and Wang, Faculty Representative Cheung, Staff Advisor Emiru, Secretary and Chief of Staff Lyall, General Counsel Robinson, Chief Compliance and Audit Officer Bustamante, Provost Newman, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer Brostrom, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Nava, Senior Vice President Turner, Vice Presidents Brown, Kao, Maldonado, and Yu, Chancellors Frenk, Gillman, Khosla, Lyons, Muñoz, and Wilcox, and Recording Secretary Li

The meeting convened at 1:00 p.m. with Committee Chair Hernandez presiding.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the meeting of July 17, 2024 were approved, Regents Beharry, Hernandez, Kounalakis, Pack, Reilly, and Salazar voting “aye.”¹

2. ANNUAL REPORT ON FISCAL YEAR 2024 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 Yu presented the federal government’s performance evaluations and scores for the University’s National Laboratories in federal fiscal year 2024. Each year, the federal government issues a detailed report card on the performance of the National Laboratories relative to the government’s goals and requirements.

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (LBNL) received grades of A” or “A-” across eight goals for the fourth consecutive year, the highest grades among U.S. Department of

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

Energy (DOE) Office of Science National Laboratories, and a score of 94 percent. Ms. Yu noted that, given the way that this score is calculated, it would be difficult for LBNL to receive a higher score. The Laboratory received “A” grades for Mission Accomplishment and Security and Emergency Management and “A-” for the remaining six goals. LBNL and UC leadership were again recognized, and the Laboratory was praised for its support of external user communities, maximizing the impact of LBNL facilities. The only issue cited by DOE pertained to the Advanced Light Source Upgrade (ALS-U) Project; leadership and management were working to ensure this project’s continued success. The University has successfully extended its contract to manage LBNL through May 31, 2030.

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) received an overall rating of “Excellent,” a numerical rating of 92 percent, and an earned fee of 95 percent. The National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) noted LLNL continued to deliver a very high level of performance, conduct experiments using the National Ignition Facility laser, and deployed El Capitan, NNSA’s first exascale computer. LLNL continued to be a leader in the NNSA goal of Mission Innovation across the national security complex. NNSA cited issues with materials control and accountability and quality assurance. UC has successfully extended the Lawrence Livermore National Security, LLC prime contract to September 30, 2031, with an optional extension through September 30, 2032.

Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) received an overall rating of “Excellent,” a numerical rating of 91 percent, and an earned fee of 95 percent; this was the highest score LANL has received since the current performance evaluation framework was first applied about 20 years ago. NNSA provided positive feedback for LANL’s work and LANL received another 100 percent in the goal of Advancing Science and Technology. NNSA cited issues with vehicle safety in light of a dramatic increase in the number of employees and capital project management given an extensive infrastructure portfolio. UC planned to discuss the future of the Triad National Security, LLC prime contract, which was extended through October 2028, with DOE in 2026. In the meantime, internal work has already begun.

Due to outstanding performance, UC National Laboratories earned a net fee income of \$36.1 million in FY 2024, more than UC’s estimate of \$30 million. Ms. Yu praised the Laboratories’ ratings, mission execution, leadership, and employees.

Chair Hernandez emphasized the importance of this recognition of the University’s management and stewardship of the National Laboratories.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.

Attest:

Secretary and Chief of Staff