

**ACADEMIC COUNCIL**  
**Approved Minutes of the Meeting**  
**January 26, 2005**

**I. Chair's Announcements**  
**George Blumenthal, Academic Council Chair**

**General Announcements.** Regent Parsky sent word that he would be unable to attend the meeting. Provost Greenwood is away on university business. President Dynes will report on her behalf. UCR Division Chair Martins-Green will join the meeting by telephone.

**Proposed Pension Legislation.** Chair Blumenthal distributed a copy of his response to a request from the Academic Affairs Legislative Unit for Senate comment on Assemblyman Richman's [proposed constitutional amendment](#) that would prohibit any person hired by a public agency after July 1, 2007 from enrolling in a defined benefit plan. The measure expressly includes the University of California. This proposal is of major concern to the university. Chair Blumenthal will keep Council informed on the progress of this legislation.

**Action:** At the request of Council members, Chair Blumenthal will provide an electronic copy of his response to the OP Legislative Unit on this proposal.

**Update on Regents' January Meeting.**

-The Regents approved a staff advisor to represent all non-senate employees of the university at Regents' meetings. The staff advisor will sit on two committees – Grounds and Buildings and Educational Policy. The proposal that was approved by the Regents (with one minor change) is posted on the web at: <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/regents/regmeet/jan05/1rp.pdf>

-By unanimous vote, The Regents endorsed a resolution affirming that academic preparation is an integral part of UC's mission as a land grant institution.

-The Regents approved a bid for the Lawrence Berkeley National Labs.

**Legislative Ruling for UC Davis.** If the Chair receives UCR&J's draft ruling on the UC Davis issue within the next several days, he will circulate it to Council members for review, and schedule a telephone meeting soon thereafter to give members the opportunity to share their comments. Those comments will then be sent to UCR&J for consideration as they prepare their final ruling for issuance, which is done by having it published in the next Assembly Notice of Meeting.

**Action:** Council members may be asked by the Council Chair to review a draft legislative ruling from UCR&J and participate in a telephone meeting to discuss their comments.

**UC Advocacy Group.** Vice Chair Brunk reported on a meeting of the UC Advocacy Group that he and Chair Blumenthal attended in late December. During discussions at that meeting, Vice Chair Brunk suggested that he would like to mobilize the UC faculty to advocate for the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. This is an important act for UC students, particularly with respect to financial aid issues.

**Update on UC Merced's Progression toward Becoming a Division.** The Merced campus will open this fall and, in anticipation of becoming a division by opening day, the faculty have submitted a proposed set of divisional bylaws to the Council Chair. The Academic Council will be asked to approve the proposed bylaws, which will then be taken to the May Assembly with a proposal to establish a Merced Division pending certification by the Academic Council that there is adequate funding for the Merced Academic Senate to operate effectively. This will require that the UCM administration guarantee a minimum amount of funding to support a senate office,

and have a written plan to increase the level of funding until it reaches the amount recommended in ["The Framework for Developing a Divisional Senate Office,"](#) which was approved by the Academic Council last year. The desired funding level would need to be reached by an agreed upon time. Negotiations with the UCM Chancellor and EVC are currently underway on the funding question.

**Update on Council's Concurrent Resolution on Graduate Education.** The Academic Council's Concurrent Resolution has been circulated to OP Senior Management, and sent forward to UC's Office of State Governmental Relations (SGR) in Sacramento. Chair Blumenthal reported that he and SGR had agreed that each would explore the possibility of including CSU in the Resolution. Since that time the CSU administration has expressly stated that it is not interested in being included, but the CSU Senate has stated its interest. Chair Blumenthal plans to meet with the CSU Senate Chair to work on mutually agreeable language that would include CSU.

**Action - UCD Chancellorial Review Committee.** Chair Blumenthal asked Council members to send him names of faculty members who could serve on the UCD chancellorial review committee.

## **II. Consent Calendar**

**Action:** The minutes of the December 15, 2004 meeting were approved.

**Action:** The March 9, 2005 Assembly Agenda was approved.

The Chair's draft letter on the **15-Year Review of Cal Sea Grant (CSG) program** was pulled from the Consent Calendar because several of the Council members felt that it should include a clear recommendation on funding. The recommendation should specify that either UCSD-SIO or the UC Office of Research provide adequate operating funds to enable CGS to continue at the UCSD campus. At a minimum, that would mean restoring the 20% cut that was taken from CSG's budget. If this funding is not forthcoming, then a competition to host Sea Grant should be opened to the other UC campuses.

**Action:** Chair agreed to redraft the letter to include Council's recommendation. The modified letter will be sent out for Council's review before it is sent forward.

## **III. 2005-06 Vice Chair of the Academic Assembly/Academic Council Nomination**

The Academic Council selected its nominee for the 2005-06 Assembly/Council Vice Chair following presentations from the candidates.

## **IV. Systemwide Strategic Directions for Libraries and Scholarly Information at the University of California**

**Issue:** The Provost asked the Senate to review and comment on the Systemwide Library and Scholarly Information Advisory Committee's report. In response, the Academic Council Chair sent the report out for a full Senate review. Based on the comments received, the Chair drafted a response to the Provost, which the Academic Council was asked to approve.

**Action:** A motion was made and passed by majority vote to approve the Chair's draft response to the Provost, pending receipt of the UCSB Division's comment letter.

## **V. Proposed University Statement of Core Values**

This item was deferred to the February meeting.

## **VI. Consultation with the Office of the President – Senior Managers**

- **Robert C. Dynes, President**
- **Joseph Mullinix, SVP-Business and Finance**
- **Bruce Darling, SVP-University Affairs**
- **Lawrence C. Hershman, VP-Budget**

### **President Dynes**

**Provost Greenwood.** President Dynes announced that Provost Greenwood was unable to attend the meeting because she was testifying at a CSU Board meeting on the issue of applied doctoral degrees.

**Budget.** The President noted that he welcomed the governor's 2005-04 budget. It provides UC with an increase in state funding after four years of substantial cuts. The proposed increase includes funding for student enrollment growth, faculty and staff compensation, and the opening of UC Merced. However, the budget does withdraw \$17 million in state support that was provided to UC at the end of the 2004-05 budget process, as one-time funding outside the compact, and asks UC to take the cut in either enrollments or K-12 academic preparation programs. The President will be making a strong case for having those funds restored for academic preparation programs, which are an integral part of UC's mission.

**Long Range Planning for UC.** The President announced that as a next step in the long range planning effort, he has appointed a leadership team charged with examining and clarifying the mission, focus and strategic integrity of the University of California in the next twenty years; identifying a precise set of goals, strategies and measures to guide the university to its chosen direction; and focusing and aligning university's resources, initiatives and talent and energy of the leadership team to achieve these strategic goals and objectives. Members from all constituencies -- regents, faculty, students, staff, administration, and friends -- are represented on the team. Provost Greenwood and Sr. Vice President Darling will co-chair the group.

**UC Merced.** UC Merced plans to open this fall with 700 freshman, 200 transfer students and 100 graduate students. To date, Merced has received over 9,000 applications from all across California.

**Tsunami Relief.** Extensive counseling services have been provided to UC students in the Education Abroad Programs that are located in the affected countries. All of the campuses are reassessing their disaster preparedness programs.

**New UC Santa Cruz Chancellor.** The Regents approved the appointment of Denise Denton as the new UCSC chancellor. She is a national leader in enhancing diversity in science and engineering.

**Director of International Strategy Development.** The President announced the appointment of Gretchen Kalonji as Faculty Associate and Director of International Strategy Development. This is a new position at the Office of the President and results from the need for UC to develop international strategies, which was a priority that emerged from the recent long-range planning discussions.

**National Labs.** The Regents voted to bid for the Lawrence Berkeley National Lab. It is expected that the RFP for the Los Alamos National Lab will be issued in mid-February and there will be sixty-day response period. The selected contractor will begin October 1, 2005. UC has not yet decided whether it will compete.

**Inaugural Tour.** The President has completed his inaugural tour with his recent visit to UC San Diego. He noted that during his tour he had been most impressed by the significant impact that the University of California has on the state.

**Sacramento Visit.** Among other things, the President will participate in an open house and reception marking the first year of the UC Center Sacramento and attend a forum on UC's PRIME-LC Latino health program. This is the first medical student education program focused on Latinos and was launched in July 2004 at UC Irvine's College of Medicine. The program will serve as a model for similar programs planned to begin at UC San Diego and UC San Francisco that will focus on other medically under-served populations, including urban populations and remote rural Californians. The President hopes to eventually have such programs at all of the UC Medical Schools.

**UC Legislative Caucus.** The President is working to build a UC Legislative Caucus with local legislators.

**Transfer Issues.** The President urged the Academic Council to act quickly on proposed programs that will ease the transfer process among the segments.

### **Sr. Vice President Mullinix**

**Pension Plan Legislation.** In his State of the State address, the governor announced that he intended to change the retirement plans for all public employees. The change would not affect existing employees, but would represent a significant change for new employees. Proposed legislation on this issue provides that on and after July 1, 2007 any person hired by a public agency may enroll only in a defined contribution plan of a public pension or retirement system, and is prohibited from enrolling in a defined benefit plan, such as UC's plan. There are currently two constitutional amendments and one ballot initiative on the table. The ballot initiative is backed by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association. At this time, it is not clear which of these vehicles the governor may choose to change the public pension plans. The UC Office of Business and Finance has taken the lead in trying to have UC exempted from these measures, since all new UC employees, including faculty would be affected. UC has historically enjoyed constitutional autonomy. The proposed constitutional amendments would override that tradition.

**UC's 403(b), 547(b) and DC Plans.** UC has been working on restructuring the investment options in these plans. It is expected that this effort will be completed by July 1. The restructure will include an education component that will allow members to access information on the investment options.

**Efficiency of Business Operations.** The Office of Business and Finance has been working to improve the efficiency of operations in a number of areas including the design and construction of buildings, strategic sourcing, and potential savings in the IT area.

**Statement of Core Values.** This is a policy regarding business conduct, which was drafted at the request of the Regents. The Office of Business and Finance has been working with UCFW on crafting a statement that would not impinge on existing policy. The draft statement was presented to the Regents' Audit Committee in January and they have made a number of changes, which are currently under review. The intent is to have the language finalized in time for consideration by The Regents in May.

### **Sr. Vice President Darling**

**Governor's Proposal on Boards and Commissions.** UC is concerned about how the governor's proposal to consolidate CPEC and the Student Aid Commission into one agency may affect the Master Plan. Among other things, CPEC has been the independent agency that has ensured that the three higher education segments are following their defined missions.

#### **Upcoming Legislative Hearings.**

- Senator Alarcon: Hearing on Under-Represented Students (early February)
- Senator Ortiz: Hearing on UC Medical School Admissions (February 23)

-Assemblywoman Liu: Hearing on Research and Graduate Education (March 10). Provost Greenwood is scheduled to testify at this hearing. She will be emphasizing the importance of graduate education in training the next generation of scientists and entrepreneurs for the state.

**UC's Advocacy Campaign.** UC's advocacy campaign is now underway. The importance of graduate education will be one of the themes for this year.

**Federal Issues.** President Bush will issue his budget in early February. Serious cuts are expected in domestic discretionary spending where research, education, financial aid and other programs are funded.

### **Vice President Hershman**

As President Dynes reported, the University will be making every effort to have the \$17 million restored for academic preparation. Budget hearings will get underway at the end of February. President Dynes is scheduled to present the University's budget proposal to the Senate Budget Subcommittee on Education on February 28 and to the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on March 1.

During the Q/A period that followed the briefing, the President was questioned about the University's policy on hiring the spouse or partner (often at a large salary) of a newly appointed high level administrator, which recently occurred at UC Santa Cruz. This is a sensitive issue on the campuses particularly during this time of stringent campus budgets. The President responded that a top priority for UC was to bring a more strategic approach to its many international initiatives, and that the Office of the President had planned to undertake a national search for someone to develop and coordinate UC's international strategy. Such a search was not necessary because Dr. Kalonji, who was about to join the UC community by virtue of her association with the newly appointed UCSC chancellor, had the right combination of scholarship and experience to help lead this important effort. Other questions followed on a range of topics including the re-organization of the Academic Affairs Unit, the National Labs, applied doctorates at CSU, student loan programs, UC Merced, resource allocation priorities, and administrative costs.

## **VII. BOARS**

### **Michael Brown, BOARS Chair**

This item was deferred to the February meeting.

## **VIII. Science Intersegmental General Education Transfer Curriculum (SciGETC) Proposal**

**Issue:** The Intersegmental Council of Academic Senates (ICAS) asked the Academic Senates of each of the three segments to review and approve the SciGETC proposal. This was the second and final discussion that the Council held on this issue.

**Action:** Following an in-depth discussion, the Academic Council voted to endorse the SciGETC proposal, in concept, with the provision that the President and Provost provide campuses with the necessary resources to implement this program. Chair Blumenthal will draft a Senate Regulation for SciGETC, but he will not submit it for approval until he has received assurances from the President and Provost that these resources will be provided.

## **IX. Proposed Revisions to Senate Bylaw 336.B4**

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

**X. Draft Proposal to Streamline the UC Major Preparation-Articulation Process Between UC Campuses and the California Community Colleges**

This item was deferred to the February meeting.

**XI. Faculty/Senior Management (Executive) Salaries**

This item was deferred to a future meeting.

**XII. Academic Council's Special Committee on the National Labs**

This item was deferred to the February meeting.

**XIII. Development of Policy on Administrative Structures for Interdisciplinary Activities**

This item was deferred to the February meeting.

**XIV. Joint Academic Council and Executive Vice Chancellors' Meeting**

Council Chair Blumenthal announced that the joint meeting with the Executive Vice Chancellors has been confirmed for Thursday, March 31, 2005 and tentatively scheduled from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The two discussion topics are: 1) graduate education, and 2) diversity within the UC faculty. Since the joint meeting comes the day after Council's March 30 meeting, UCB Division Chair Robert Knapp has invited Council members to attend a buffet dinner at his home the evening of the 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Action:** Chair Blumenthal will send members an Email message containing directions and other information about the dinner.

**XV. Senate Issues/Topics of Concern**

None.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Attest: George Blumenthal, Chair  
Academic Council

Minutes prepared by:  
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