

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Minutes of Special Teleconference

3:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 20, 2011

I. Senate Officers' Announcements

Chair Anderson stated that he called a special teleconference of the Academic Council to discuss student protests and violent response by the police at both UC Berkeley and UC Davis. Council members agreed that Council should issue a statement expressing outrage at the display of force by the police, supporting freedom of speech and peaceful protest, and making it clear that the responsibility for providing an environment that allows peaceful protest ultimately rests with the Chancellors.

ACTION: Council unanimously adopted the following four statements:

- 1. We are outraged by the display of force against members of the UC community that we have seen at the Berkeley and Davis campuses.**
- 2. It is essential that there be a clear chain of command, with the Chancellor accepting ultimate responsibility for actions of the police, who must be trained to respond appropriately to protests.**
- 3. Campuses should exercise restraint in responding to peaceful protests and seek to resolve the situation through dialogue.**
- 4. We support the right of free speech and peaceful protest by all members of the University community. We reaffirm our opposition to the state's disinvestment in higher education, which is at the root of the student protests.**

II. New Business

Council did not discuss any new business.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Attest: Robert Anderson, Academic Council Chair

Minutes prepared by Clare Sheridan, Senior Policy Analyst