The Winter 2005 Assembly Meeting of the Academic Senate was held on March 9, 2005 by teleconference. The UCR representatives met in the Academic Senate offices in the University Office Building.

Present: Manuela Martins-Green, Emory Elliott (Junior Assembly Representative), and Mary Gauvain (Senior Assembly Representative)

The following items were discussed.

**A. Announcements by Chair Blumenthal**

There will be several major issues facing the Academic Senate this year, these are:

1. **Long-term planning for the University.** President Dynes has created a long-term planning committee that will meet over the next 6 months to discuss planning for the next 20 years of the University. Provost Greenwood and Bruce Darling are co-chairing this committee. Members include 5 regents, 3 chancellors, C. Brunk and G. Blumenthal. Main foci are strengthening graduate training and increasing diversity among faculty, staff, and students.

2. **Intersegmental Proposals.** At the last two meetings of the Academic Council two intersegmental proposals were approved in principle, both pertain to facilitating student transfers to the university from community colleges. These will come to the Full Assembly in May for a vote.

3. **Advocacy.** Alumni and faculty are increasingly involved in advocacy efforts on behalf of the university to the legislature. Upcoming legislation of special concern is pension reform and the Scott bill, which focuses on the ability of CSU campuses to offer doctoral degrees in applied sciences such as Audiology.

4. **Lab contracts.** Process still underway.

5. **Academic Council action on Proposition 71.** Council will propose that all groups that accept money from the state to conduct stem cell research will make results from their research available within 6 months to the public.

**B. Other Reports**

1. **Nomination and election of new vice-chair of the Assembly.** John Oakley, a member of the law faculty at UC Davis, was nominated and elected to serve as Vice Chair for 2005-06, and the following year he will serve as Chair.
2. **Legislative resolution regarding graduate education.** Legislature is currently working on resolution to strengthen graduate education at UC by allowing the system to compete more effectively for students across the state, nation, and internationally.

3. **Senate at UC Merced.** The Senate guidelines at UCM are being developed and the process of establishing a new division of the Academic Senate is in progress.


5. **Change to By-Law on Privilege and Tenure.** A 3-year limit on when a disciplinary change can be made against a faculty member was proposed. There is currently no time limit on this type of complaint. The 3-year limit would begin when the Chancellor or Chancellor designate (usually the EVC) knew or should have known about the alleged violation. Motion carried by a 2/3 majority.

### C. Comment from President Dynes

President Dynes joined the meeting. He had previously provided a list of discussion topics to the Assembly members, as is his practice, and his comments were used to highlight and discuss issues presented in his written comments.

1. **Budget.** The budget looks pretty good, the Governor has fulfilled his compact with the University, which means funding for enrollment growth, decreased student/faculty ratios, and opening UC Merced. Only outstanding issue is that the Academic Preparation request is not in the compact and efforts to reclaim the funds previously allocated to this purpose are underway. The issue of evaluating the effectiveness of these programs is central to continued funding.

2. **Leadership.** Search for UCI chancellor underway, UCSC Chancellor has been appointed; UCSD Chancellor Fox has been inaugurated. UCB’s inauguration is next month.

3. **Professional doctorates at CSU.** UC is opposed to legislation that would grant CSU campuses the authority to grant doctorates. UC proposes examining UC-CSU joint programs as model of how to proceed on this front.

4. **Governor’s proposal on pensions.** Currently under discussion, UC wants to control its own pension system and not be under state umbrella.

5. **Report on lab contracts.** Expect to hear on Berkeley proposal soon from the DOE. Los Alamos competition is expected to be underway soon. The President expects that UC will compete for this management position when the RFP is released.

6. **Mathematics and Science teachers initiative** is of primary focus in President’s current efforts.

7. **Questions from the Assembly to President Dynes:**
   a. Is UC planning a student loan program? No news on this front yet.
   b. Has there been a settlement in the Law School case regarding the fee raise? Not settled yet.
   c. Will funding for foreign graduate students be increased? This is a critical area that is being worked on at UCOP.
   d. How will anti-terrorism clauses in funding descriptions affects UC?
Foundations are inserting language in their proposals that state that the money cannot be used to support any activity that could be construed as supporting terrorism.

e. Is funding for the California Science and Mathematics Initiative part of Academic Preparation?
   No, these funding sources are separate.

f. Will increases in graduate education impact undergraduate instruction?
   Tidal wave 2 will level off in 2010 and the number of graduate and professional students will make up an increasingly larger proportion of the campus admits. Resources need to be put in place to support this growth in graduate education when it occurs.

g. Is rise in graduate fees going to continue?
   Expect the fee structure will be more flexible in the future but final numbers not yet decided.

h. Are foreign graduate students currently having problems pertaining to security?
   There are some signs that Visa restrictions are being lifted a bit. UCOP wants to be informed if any such problems arise on the campuses.

i. How will the Governor change the pension plan?
   If there are changes they will apply only to new employees.

k. Have there been any reports about actions pertaining to the Patriot Act?
   None have been reported

With this question, President Dynes’s comments were concluded.

D. Two systemwide committee reports

1. Committee on Faculty Welfare. Discussion of changes to the pension plan are ongoing, it is considered adverse to the university interests to lose autonomy over overseeing and regulating it own benefits plan. A best practices plan pertaining to parking principles is underway. A UCOP mortgage program is now managed by a Credit Union and is working well. An audit of the UC Healthcare benefits program is underway, 20% of employees are being asked to participate. A large number of dependents seem to be ineligible for health care and is causing great expense to the system; dependent system is being investigated.

2. BOARS. Investigating the appropriateness of UC’s participation in the National Merit Scholarship Program to determine if it is consistent with fair practices policies regarding equal access to funding. Process appears to disadvantage underrepresented minorities and lower SES students.

These minutes were recorded and submitted by Mary Gauvain, Senior Assembly Representative of the Riverside Division of the Academic Senate on May 23, 2005.