Emory B. Elliott, Representative to the Assembly  
UC Riverside

The Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am.

Report by President Dynes

John Oakley introduced President Dynes who said that he had sent a report on e-mail to the faculty about the Board of Regents’ meeting at which issues of compensation for faculty and administrators and a new retirement plan and system for contributions had been discussed. He noted that there is a task force on compensation issues that would soon be reporting to the Regents. He said that he believes the report will be direct and hard hitting and will offer recommendations that he expects to endorse.

He also reported that the University was undergoing three forms of audits: 1) a Regent’s audit; 2) an internal audit; and 3) a State audit.

He stressed that he is making the case to the Regents and the State that the campuses need to have resources to recruit new faculty and to retain the best faculty, but that he also has recognized the need to adhere to some for the recommendations of the task force. We need better information systems and need to create a better structure for recommendations between UCOP and the Regents. The report will discuss the problem of having too many exceptions to policies. We need to establish policies and greatly reduce the number of exceptions to policies.

At the March Regent’s meeting, there was discussion of the current low interest rate on the retirement funds which could result in the fund falling below the 100% funding level. In order to prevent this from happening, we need a sustainable rate of between 7 ½ and 16%.

The Regents took a moral stand against the government of Sudan for the genocide taking place in Darfur.

Regarding the State budget, Dynes said that he had recently testified twice before the State Assembly. He stressed to them the need for UC to rebuild after the budget cuts of the last several years. He received praise for the University’s performance during the time of the cuts.

The Federal budget does not look good for funding research as there is a proposed decrease in Congress for the NIH.
He announced that Michael Drake is the new Chancellor at UCI and the Carol Tomlinson Keasey will step down as Chancellor at UC Merced.

Questions for Dynes from the Assembly:

A member asked about student protests against sweatshops at UC Berkeley and Riverside. He said that the University is looking into the companies from which it purchases apparel.

A member asked if there would be increases in the contributions that faculty must make to their retirement plans that would result in cuts in take home pay. Dynes said that the Regents are aware of this danger and have a ten-year plan to increase contributions to the retirement funds.

A member asked about the need to further diversify the faculty, and Dynes said that the May retreat will be devoted to discussing diversity.

Regarding the search for a new Chancellor at UCLA, he said that he has made an offer to someone. He noted that they still need to do a search for the Provost and Treasurer.

A member asked if the new arrangement worked out for the Los Alamo Lab is the best structure. Dynes said no but it was the best the University could get.

Reports of Standing Committees:

The Academic Council had a special meeting with the Council of Chancellors and covered four topics:

1. Funding for graduate education.
2. Reorganization of Academic planning and administration.
3. The need for greater faculty diversity.
4. Faculty salaries and the “culture of exceptions.”

Carl Piester and Michael Cowan are being given lifetime achievement awards.

Michael Brown, Chair of BOARS, elected by acclamation, will serve as Acting Vice-Chair of the Council now that John Oakley has replaced Cliff Brunk as Chair of the Council.

The Committee on the National Laboratories has put the Los Alamos Lab out for bid and will soon do the same with Livermore.

BOARS
Michael Brown reported that there has been a change in admissions procedures regarding Advance Placement courses. Bonus points will no longer be given for AP courses and now an exit exam is required for all high school seniors. There is a joint administration and senate task force to examine all of the issues surrounding undergraduate admissions.

**UC Faculty Welfare**

Discussions continue with consultants and UCOP on retirement plans and health care issues. They are currently looking at the impact of new health care changes on the retirement income.

**UC Planning and Budget**

Protocols are being established to cover multi-campus hybrid organizations such as the CALESE projects. Where will funds come from to sustain these projects? How is compensation to be handled?

There are many concerns about the new structure of the national labs.

The Education Abroad Program has suffered major budget cuts and is no longer functional.

The pressures for UC to become more privatized are increasing. The long-range implications for the compact are that we will see slow starvation for the system with increasing fees and decreasing compensation.

The UCPB is asking for a return to the budget levels of 2000 which was the last good year of funding. UC had nearly recovered from the budget collapse of 1990-2000 when $1.2 billion was removed from the budget in 2000. Private unrestricted support is only 2%. Privatization will destroy some of the campuses.

Chair of the UCR Senate Manuela Martins-Green read a statement from Chancellor France Cordova on the student protest of sweatshops.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45pm.