Prior to the meeting, Dr. Martins-Green introduced Dr. George Blumenthal, Chair of the Academic Council as an honored guest who spoke to the UC faculty. Dr. Blumenthal began his remarks with thanking the administration for doing such a good job. He went on to say that he was pleased with the new president of the university as well as the other new leadership. Systemwide has been involved in long range planning for the university and we are becoming the premier public university in the world. Maintaining that status is not easy and takes a lot of work. It involves dealing with such issues such as obtaining visas for foreign graduate students, varying demographics, and the future of graduate education generally. Many feel that graduate education is not as healthy as it was a decade ago and we need to work together to improve it.

Systemwide has been involved in following legislation regarding education, trying to convince politicians that education of our students is crucial to the California economy and the future as well. Research issues are controversial, some campuses having voted not to accept funding from the tobacco industry. He also noted that the role of the Senate is being reviewed.

There are many more Graduate issues -- Regents recently improved eligibility by raising minimum G.P.A. Transfers have been attracting a lot of attention and Sacramento is asking why UC is not doing more. UC has very specific reasons for doing what we do. We give credit on a course by course basis. This has been working well. There is a proposal that is under review stating that if a community college course is accepted at one campus, it should be accepted at all others as well unless there is a specific reason not to allow it.

Dr. Blumenthal said he was pleased to have been invited to visit UC Riverside and the group responded with enthusiastic applause.
the name change. The committee also suggested that the current Director could submit a name change if a change was desired. The current Director, Professor Zhu, then submitted a request for a name change proposing the identical name to that proposed previously. Professor Close commented that the new proposal by Director Zhu did appear to have the proper authority and the proposal seemed to have been properly reviewed by the appropriate Academic Senate committees as summarized by Dr. Liu. Also, Professor Close expressed his view that Director Zhu’s reasons for the proposed new name were sufficient and that he favored the name change proposed by Director Zhu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHANCELLOR: Chancellor Córdova thanked Academic Senate Chair George Blumenthal for his inspirational words to the faculty.

The Chancellor began her address with a quote from the book “A Brief History of the University of California”, revised by Patricia Pelfrey (Center for Studies in Higher Education, Berkeley, 2004, UC Regents). “The universitywide Academic Senate – the body that represents the faculty in the governance of UC – has long been among the most powerful in American higher education. Its insistence on rigorous peer review of faculty achievements, and its central role in governing the University have ensured the primacy of academic quality and academic values. The presence of a universitywide senate, in addition to the senates on each campus, engenders a sense of unity in a huge and decentralized academic enterprise.”

Chancellor Córdova stated that as it is the Academic Senate’s role to share in the university’s governance, it is the role of senior administration to articulate a common vision for the institution, one which is suited to the university’s particular circumstances of time (its historical time and present challenges, both global and local) and place (everything from geography to relative position among other universities). In short, a vision that synthesizes what is already afoot on the campus and articulates it with new urgency.

She then reiterated the goals and visions at UCR as presented at the Fall Forums or in her visits to individual departments with the explanation that the Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost, Dr. Ellen Wartella would expand on these goals and explain how plans are shaping up to realize them through specific actions.

STRATEGIC GOALS AND VISION, UC RIVERSIDE:

To enhance UCR’s reputational rankings: UCR will have the profile of an AAU member university

To invest in areas of strength: UCR will be recognized for its distinction among all research universities in selected areas which exhibit quality and momentum

To expand opportunities for learning and personal growth for all students, undergraduate and graduate: UCR will become a campus of “first choice” for applicants and students will have a successful experience at UCR.

To reshape curriculum: UCR will build on the diversity of its students and the distinction of its faculty, and connect the curriculum to the vision of UCR as an AAU institution

To diversify our faculty, staff, and graduate population: UCR will be a preeminent research university that has diversity and inclusiveness as measures of distinctiveness
To build professional schools: UCR will offer expanded professional education in areas that respond to the needs of the state and region and that help to stimulate a knowledge-based economy.

To forge closer ties with the community: UCR will organize and coordinate with others to achieve common goals for prosperity and sustainability of the Inland Empire through technology transfer, attraction and retention of highly skilled jobs and industries, and responsiveness to regional issues.

The Chancellor read more quotes from the book, “A Brief History of the University of California” and stated that she believes we have the opportunity as never before to reach a new level of excellence and to transform inland California, a land of great growth and limitless possibilities. In closing, she stated that she believes a drive for excellence in research and teaching, a commitment to our students and our community will be the foundation upon which UCR will realize its goals.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE VICE CHANCELLOR: Executive Vice Chancellor and Provost Ellen Wartella announced that since her arrival in July, she has been engaged in strategic planning for the campus. There have been three retreats held.

At the first retreat, the senior leadership group reaffirmed the Chancellor’s goals. The second retreat again reaffirmed these eight goals, discussed possible strategic initiatives to realize them and agreed to develop a plan of strategic initiatives to meet those goals. At the third retreat, the MARS group was inaugurated. This group is charged with prioritizing, overseeing and monitoring the strategic action initiatives. Five strategic initiatives were identified and will be pursued over the next 18 months. They are: (1) Marketing the University, (2) Realize the Palm Desert Campus, (3) Health Sciences Initiative, (4) Development of UCR’s professional Infrastructure; and (5) Curriculum review.

Dr. Wartella added that in addition to these five strategic initiatives, many other offices on campus will be pursuing the campus goals and there will be many more activities to advance the campus goals.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE DEANS OR OTHER EXECUTIVE OFFICERS: Professor Larry Wright, Secretary-Parliamentarian announced that the Election Report was found on page 6 of the agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIR: Dr. Martins-Green began by introducing the Academic Senate staff and thanking them for their support and dedication in the time of transition. She then thanked the faculty for having served or who are serving on various committees and asked for their continued support. During the past decade, there have been many difficult times with the budget cuts and the spurt of growth. However the outlook seems to be much brighter.

Dr. Martins-Green also stated that there have already been many transitions this year such as those involving Subject A. In this case, the Academic Senate offered recommendations and the administration accepted them. There has been a broad review of all the committees and a goal to review the majors. The Committees on Faculty Welfare and Physical Resources Planning have been working toward the goal of establishing a new Faculty/University Club which will be available to faculty, staff and graduate students. An ad hoc committee has been formed to review the Senate bylaws and implement changes. Meetings have been ongoing with the Vice Chancellors and Deans to determine how the Senate can work with them. A newsletter has been initiated to be used as a form for UC exchanges and faculty accomplishments. Faculty are encouraged to send information to
the Academic Senate Office for publication. Chuck Rowley has been working with the Senate to give access to the Senate web page through ilearn.

There are many other projects in the works, such as faculty workload, curriculum budget, faculty discussion meetings, and the Advisory Committee will work with the administration to install best practices.

SPECIAL ORDERS:

I. Consent Calendar: The Consent Calendar was adopted with unanimous consent

II. Reports of the Standing Committees:

The reports were adopted with unanimous consent.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES AND FACULTIES:

A. Professor H. W. Green, Chair of the Committee on Educational Policy presented and moved adoption of the proposal of a new policy on Academic Integrity at the University of California, Riverside. The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

B. Professor L. Wright, member of the Committee on Rules and Jurisdiction presented and moved adoption of the proposal of the change in bylaw 8.4.1 (Committee on Academic Personnel). The motion was seconded and unanimously adopted.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

ATTEST:

L. Wright, Secretary-Parliamentarian

Marlene Odel
Recording Secretary