

**Report of the Representative to the Assembly of the Academic Senate
March 9, 2005**

TO: Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:

The Assembly met by phone on March 9 from 10AM to 1 PM. First came the announcements of the chair, George Blumenthal. He reported that there will be an LRDP of sorts for the University, headed by Provost Greenwood and Executive Vice President Bruce Darling, who are working to bring into focus a vision of UC in 2020. Second, plans are being formulated to make the easier the articulation between community college and UC. Specifically, there will now be generic articulation agreements. Specific departments and specific campuses may still elect to opt-out of the generic templates. Blumenthal mentioned the launching of an advocacy program, intended to win the hearts and minds and pocketbooks of legislative friends. Faculty will be called to be involved. Third, Blumenthal noted that Senator Jack Scott (head of the California Senate committee on higher education) has introduced a bill that would allow California State Universities (CSU's) to mount doctoral programs. The CSU's cite delays in arranging joint Ed.D. programs as one reason that the state should grant them authority to give doctoral degrees. Fourth, UC has submitted a bid to manage Lawrence Livermore Labs, and has gone through the oral report stage. Fifth, UC has requested that the Regenerative Health Project, allowed by the passage of Prop 71 on the Stem Cell Initiative, make grantees agree to publish their findings on a publicly accessible web site within six months of notification of acceptance of publication. Finally, Blumenthal noted the crisis in graduate education in the UC system. Enrollments, especially of international students, are down and some programs are in jeopardy.

President Dynes' report included several items. First, in terms of the budget, there is good news from Sacramento (the Governor will honor his compact and there is bipartisan support for the university) but bad news from Washington. Second, senior personnel positions are being filled. Denice Denton has been hired. The UCSD chancellor was just inaugurated; and the UCB chancellor will soon be. The search has begun for a chancellor for UCI. Third, CSUs are trying to push for doctoral-degree granting privileges. President Dynes is opposed to that move. Fourth, he noted that the funding for the California Science and Math Initiative is kept separate from academic preparation programs. He is trying to put together a compelling program that he can sell to the governor. Fifth, he reiterated that he wants to increase the number of graduate students relative to undergraduates in the UC system.

The Assembly voted unanimously to elect John Oakley of Davis as the Vice Chair of the Assembly 2005-2006.

The meeting continued with a discussion, lead by Chair Blumenthal, of the establishment of a Senate at Merced. Changes in the bylaws may make it easier to establish the Senate there than might otherwise be true. At the core of the issue is the delegation of authority. Assembly voted in favor of a resolution to modify Senate Bylaw 116b.

Next came a discussion of a proposed change to the Bylaws concerning time limits on disciplinary hearings. The rule as it exists in the bylaws was created to protect administrators who might otherwise be exposed to sanctions if disciplinary proceedings extended longer than three years. The new wording is intended to clarify the bylaw and is consistent with the Faculty Code of Conduct. By a voice vote, the resolution clarifying the language was passed by Assembly.

Two oral reports were given, one by the Committee on Faculty Welfare and one by BOARS. UCFW reported that there may be a move away from a defined benefits program for retirement and toward defined contributions. Other topics of concern to UCFW were parking, eligibility for health care, and the sale of MOP plans. By working closely together, the system-wide administration (in the office of Steve Matthews) and UCFW were able to capture an extra 2.5 million dollars for the university from a credit union that bought the mortgages. BOARS reported on its opposition to UC use of the merit scholarships (PSATs). The PSATs have an adverse impact on ethnic minority applicants and have no proven predictive validity. According to ETS, they are not intended to be used as a gating mechanism for college entrance.

Respectfully Submitted;

REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ASSEMBLY
Michael Isaacson

March 11, 2005