

**Report of the Representative to the Assembly of the Academic Senate
April 12, 2006**

TO: Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:

President Dynes submitted his usual written report to the Assembly (located at <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/senate/assembly/apr2006/rcd.04.06.assembly.pdf>) and answered questions from Assembly members. He discussed the forthcoming three audits of compensation and mentioned the decision in March by the Regents to divest from companies doing business with Sudan. UC is the first major university to take such a strong position against genocide in Darfur. Dynes reminded the Assembly that a gradual resumption of contributions to UCRP will begin in July 2007, and he assured the Assembly that such resumption will not lead to a decrease in take home pay. He stated that the searches for University Provost and UCLA Chancellor were proceeding on schedule but that the University Treasurer search may be delayed pending a possible reorganization at UCOP.

In the meeting's only action item, Vice Chair-Elect Michael Brown was unanimously elected as vice chair for the remainder of the year until his normal term begins September 1, 2006. This fills the vacancy created when John Oakley became chair following the removal of the previous chair, Clifford Brunk.

The Assembly also received verbal reports from several committees, which I very briefly summarize here:

- Academic Council Special Committee on the National Labs: This committee has completed a report suggesting a new faculty oversight structure for the Los Alamos National Lab. This report will be presented to the Academic Council and to the Assembly at a later date.
- Board of Admissions and Relations with Schools: BOARS has been studying the bonus grade point given for participation in AP and UC approved honors courses since 1998 and has concluded that the use of this bonus point in determining UC eligibility is not educationally warranted. At the same time, BOARS wishes to emphasize the importance of rigorous courses during the campus admissions (comprehensive review) process. In addition, BOARS is studying the first year results of the new admissions tests required of UC applicants, and it will determine whether additional changes to our eligibility criteria will be needed.
- University Committee on Planning and Budget: UCPB is nearing completion on a "Futures Report," which looks at detailed projections based on four budget scenarios (the Compact with the Governor; a frozen model where budget increases are grounded on student fee increases; a budget from the 2000-2001 academic year; and a budget based on the "good old days" of the early 1990s).
- Committee on Faculty Welfare: UCFW has been working with the administration and their consultants, while analyzing in great detail potential changes to the University retiree health plans and UCRP. In addition, UCFW is working on a number of family friendly initiatives and recommendations on childcare, for future implementation systemwide.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA CRUZ
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AS/SCP/1492-2

Respectfully Submitted;
REPRESENTATIVE TO THE ASSEMBLY

George Blumenthal

May 1, 2006