

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Follow up on the Tabled Resolution
Special Meeting of the Academic Senate on October 19, 2009

To the Academic Senate, Santa Cruz Division:

At the Special Meeting of the Academic Senate on October 19, 2009, the Senate briefly considered a resolution censuring the actions of UC President Mark Yudof that was passed by the UC Santa Barbara Academic Senate. The UCSC Senate tabled that resolution (which is attached for reference as Appendix A). The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) addressed the tabled resolution by reworking it, and offers the attached submission for consideration by the Senate.

Respectfully submitted,

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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November 6, 2009

Memorial to UC President Mark G. Yudof
Academic Senate
University of California, Santa Cruz

On the University

Whereas the University of California has for generations been considered one of the finest, if not the finest, system of public higher education in the world; and

Whereas public higher education is a driver of economic development and job creation within the State of California; and

Whereas the persistent erosion of and current drastic reductions in state funding for the University threaten its mission as a public institution, and likewise threaten the ability of faculty to carry out the University's stated mission; and

Whereas the continued imposition of higher and higher student fees for admission to the University constitutes a form of tuition in fact, if not in name, regardless of linguistic camouflage; and

Whereas tuition is explicitly forbidden by California's state Constitution in its provisions establishing the University of California; and

Whereas UC President Mark Yudof, and his designates have, since he took office, generally undermined constitutionally-mandated principles of Shared Governance with the faculty, offering the appearance of consultation but failing to heed the spirit of shared governance on such issues as Presidential Emergency Powers, the scheduling of furloughs, and the establishment of the Gould Commission on the Future of the University; and

Whereas UC President Mark Yudof has also persistently disregarded universal faculty appeals that any University employee earning less than \$40,000 a year should be exempt from the salary reduction plan; and

Whereas by enabling such trespasses, the Regents of the University of California, in their solemn responsibility to hold and preserve the University of California as a public trust, as provided for in Article 9, section 9 of the California State Constitution, have seriously compromised and jeopardized that responsibility; and

On the University of California, Santa Cruz

Whereas the University of California, Santa Cruz affirms the highest levels of commitment to undergraduate and graduate education and to the stellar quality of faculty research and scholarship; and

Whereas the series of decisions concerning student fees and admissions policies, and budget cuts more generally, threaten to reverse and cripple efforts toward appropriate, federally mandated standards of diversity for the recruitment and retention of students,

faculty and staff of underrepresented minorities in a state that has a minority population of 57.4%*, and to which UCSC has established a particular commitment; and

Whereas UCSC faculty and staff are among the lowest paid employees in the UC system despite the very high cost of living in Santa Cruz and surrounding communities and despite their demonstrated excellence in their fields,

Therefore be it resolved that the Academic Senate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, directs UC President Mark Yudof to fully assume his important role as spokesperson and advocate for the University of California, and further directs the President, and the Board of Regents of the University of California via the UC President to mount a vigorous, aggressive campaign to defend this great institution by educating the public, the Governor, and the State Legislature about the vital functions and contributions of the University of California; its educational mission as a center for intellectual, scientific, cultural, and scholarly research and development; and its ethical mission to sustain the state and the nation by preparing California's young people to assume the responsibilities of an enlightened citizenry in a democracy; and

be it resolved that the Academic Senate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, directs UC President Mark Yudof and the Board of Regents via the UC President to forcefully resist any further budgetary cuts to the University of California; and

be it resolved that the Academic Senate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, directs UC President Mark Yudof and the Board of Regents via the UC President to campaign vigorously and with the utmost determination to *reverse* the cuts that have been made and work in concert with the Chancellors, Presidents, and Governing Boards of the California Community Colleges and the California State Universities to form a *united* campaign to save public higher education in the State of California; and

be it resolved that the Academic Senate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, directs UC President Mark Yudof and the Board of Regents via the UC President to commit to *reduce* student fees gradually each year; and

be it resolved that the Academic Senate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, directs UC President Mark Yudof and the Board of Regents via the UC President to implement forthwith the protocols of shared governance with the faculty, in fact and not just in appearance, and to enlist the support of the faculty in its campaign to save public higher education; and

be it resolved that the Academic Senate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, directs UC President Mark Yudof and the Board of Regents via the UC President to give priority to the adequate and full representation of underrepresented minorities at all levels of the University of California in accord with federal mandates; and

be it resolved that the Academic Senate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, directs UC President Mark Yudof to immediately end all salary reduction through forced furloughs for any university employee earning less than \$40,000 a year; and

be it further resolved that the Academic Senate of the University of California, Santa Cruz, directs UC President Mark Yudof to end all salary reductions and restore all salaries for all UC employees on July 1, 2010.

*This is based on 2008 statistics and the specific breakdown is:

- White – 42.3%
- Hispanic/Latino – 36.6%
- Black – 6.7%
- American Indian – 1.2%
- Native Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander - .4%
- Asian – 12.5%

APPENDIX A

10/19/09

The following resolution was tabled by hand vote.

- 1) UCOP has misrepresented the real nature of the University's financial situation. The options with which we were presented in June were not the only ones available, but were calculated to coerce us into accepting measures that UCOP and the Regents wanted to enact. The state cutbacks, though significant, are being used as an excuse to proceed aggressively with further steps toward transforming the University from a public resource, dedicated to the education of the people of California and the pursuit of knowledge, into a profit-making enterprise, a research facility of benefit primarily to industry and beholden primarily to commercial interests.
- 2) The "emergency powers" declaration, approved in July, was unnecessary, an effort to give the budget measures an air of urgency and inevitability that they do not in fact possess. The specific purpose of the emergency powers is to free UCOP's hand to undermine longstanding institutional structures, like faculty governance, and to circumvent financial obligations to faculty, staff, and students.
- 3) The decision of UCOP (as communicated in the memo of Provost Pitts) to override the expressed will of the Senate by demanding that faculty furloughs be taken on non-teaching days is a direct assault on the principle of faculty governance, a deliberate and offensive effort to undermine and degrade the institutional culture of the UC system.
- 4) President Yudof's recent interview in the NY Times was an embarrassment. His statements showed him to be a cynical opportunist with no commitment to education. He called his own entry into the field of education an "accident;" he claimed that the "shine" had gone off education, and he likened the UC system to a cemetery. Such remarks are an insult to the UC community he is well paid to serve and lead; they are unbecoming to the president of the nation's leading public University. They call his fitness for his position into question.

In view of these considerations, we propose the following resolution:

The UC Santa Barbara Division of the Academic Senate censures the actions of President Yudof as well as the Regents' support of those actions.