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UCSA Urges Governor Brown to Reform UC Regent Selection Criteria
New Appointments Lack Fresh Perspective and Experience in Higher Education

Oakland, CA - On Friday, January 17, Governor Edmond G. Brown Jr. announced four new appointments to the University of California Board of Regents. Although all four appointees come to the Board of Regents with impressive resumes and unique experience, the announcement of new UC Regents leaves something to be desired for UC students.

The Governor plans to reappoint investment banker Richard C. Blum and broadcasting executive Norman Pattiz, both whose current terms are set to expire this March. ImpreMedia and La Opinión executive Monica Lozano is also set to return to the Board after serving a twelve-year term that ended last year. The fourth and only new appointee, Richard Sherman, is the CEO of entertainment enterprise the David Geffen Company, who lacks crucial experience in higher education that is needed to supplement the UC Regents.

While the University of California Student Association acknowledges the new appointments to the UC Board of Regents, UCSA would like to see future appointees who can bring new perspective and direct experience in higher education. Whereas the reappointments of Richard C. Blum, Norman Pattiz, and Monica Lozano are sure to bring a historical perspective to the UC Board of Regents, it is critical that new, relevant Regents are appointed to move the UC forward during this critical time in California's higher education. In addition, while UCSA recognizes new appointee Sherman's career accomplishments and philanthropic endeavors, it does not believe Sherman's professional background to be fit for the UC.

The University of California Student Association firmly believes that the Board of Regents is significantly absent of leaders who have experience in managing a higher education system and the necessary interests in the success of California's students. UCSA would like the Senate to carefully consider the new appointees and their fit on the UC Board of Regents, and hopes to see a change in the fulfillment of the additional vacancies on the Board.

UCSA urges Governor Brown to return to his pledge to disrupt the status quo of the UC Regents. Student voices deserve to be heard in the Regent selection process and UCSA looks forward to working with Governor Brown in identifying Regental candidates and selection criteria that will truly benefit the UC and its students.

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About the University of California Student Association

The University of California Student Association is the official voice of over 230,000 undergraduate, graduate, and professional students from the eleven UC campuses. It is our mission to advocate on behalf of current and future students for the accessibility, affordability, and quality of the University of California system.