Resolution in Support of Increased Accountability, Accessibility and Availability of the UC Board of Regents to UC Students

WHEREAS, the UC Board of Regents is the sole governing board to the University of California system and obtain “full powers of organization and government” of the ten universities; and, [1]

WHEREAS, the University of California is a shared governance system, which gives faculty members of the UC “a voice in the operation of the University,” while the UC Board of Regents are ultimately granted the authority to set policies; and, [2] [3]

WHEREAS, since 2011, “the total amount that University of California students pay in tuition [has surpassed] the funding the prestigious public university receives from the state,” making students an essential component of the shared governance system; and, [4]

WHEREAS, regular meetings of the UC Board of Regents are held monthly unless dismissed by the Board, and notice of the meetings must be sent out to any persons requesting at least ten days in advance; and, [5]

WHEREAS, meetings of the UC Regents have been held at UCSF Mission Bay for nearly two years, with the last rotating campus meeting being in January of 2012 at UC Riverside; and, [6]

WHEREAS, relations between UC students and the UC Board of Regents have been compromised at UC Regents meetings in UC Riverside and UCLA that resulted in building lockdowns and police intervention; and,

WHEREAS, the UC Board of Regents have proved hesitant to continue rotating-campus visits following the aforementioned events; and,

WHEREAS, the meetings for the rest of the entire 2013-2014 school year are already planned to be held at UCSF Mission Bay; and,

WHEREAS, the UC Board of Regents meetings are currently inaccessible for students, especially those living in Southern California or without sufficient finances to provide travel; and,
WHEREAS, the UC Board of Regents do not currently have any mandated requirement to visit the UC campuses and the constituents in which they represent; and,

WHEREAS, it is essential for UC students to have their voices heard by UC administration and the UC Board of Regents in regards to policies that affect the student experience at every UC campus;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the University of California Student Association (UCSA) formally requests that the UC Regents rotate their bi-monthly meeting throughout the different UC campuses, starting in the 2014-2015 school year; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the University of California Student Association (UCSA) supports visitation by individual Regents at each of the UC campuses yearly to foster productive and safe student-to-Regent interactions; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the University of California Student Association (UCSA) supports the creation of a fund sponsored by the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) to provide financial means for individual Regent visits on each UC campus; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the University of California Student Association (UCSA) will record and document Regent campus visits and notify students of the current relations between students and the UC Board of Regents; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the University of California Student Association (UCSA) will advocate for increased visitation by individual Regents to each campus with the intent of cultivating a space for future rotating-campus meetings of the entire UC Board of Regents in the 2014-2015 school year.

References

1. UC Board of Regents Bylaws 5.1.a.
5. UC Board of Regents Bylaws 14.1