THE REGENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

As you know, Governor Schwarzenegger on Friday issued the May Revise to his 2010-11 budget proposal, and I enclose a copy of the official University statement issued on Friday from Vice President Lenz, which contains detailed information about the content of the May Revise for the University.

We have a number of advocacy activities in process to ensure that the Legislature hears strong constituent support for the Governor’s proposals for higher education. I would like to strongly encourage you to use this window of opportunity, this week, to be in touch with any members of the Legislature with whom you have relationships. Our key messages for such phone calls and letters are:

- We encourage the Legislature to support the Governor’s May Revise proposals for the University of California and for Cal Grants.

- We recognize that the Legislature faces a tremendously difficult set of budget choices this year. We believe it is important to consider higher education as a uniquely powerful investment for creating the jobs and new economic activity that are vital to California’s recovery and budget stability.

- The funding the Governor has suggested for UC is far short of The Regents’ original request, which reflected the University’s true needs. But the Governor's proposed funding level is critical to maintaining student access and course availability, protecting financial aid, and minimizing further program cuts and employee layoffs.

- The majority of the proposal for UC ($305 million) is the restoration of funding that was cut in the final 2009-10 budget on a “one-time” basis.

- We also want to assure the Legislature that the University is working hard to make the best use of its existing resources. We have a major presentation on
The Regents of the University of California
May 17, 2010
Page 2

administrative efficiencies on the Board’s agenda this week – summarizing progress on efficiencies to date and laying out new ones for the future.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to be in touch with Senior Vice President Dan Dooley at (510) 987-0060, Associate Vice President Steve Juarez at (916) 445-9924, or Vice President Patrick Lenz at (510) 987-9101.

With best wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

Mark G. Yudof
President

Enclosure

cc: Chancellors
UC budget VP’s statement on state budget revision

Date: 2010-05-14
Contact: UC Office of the President
Phone: (510) 987-9200
Email:

Statement from UC Vice President for Budget Patrick Lenz on Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger’s May revision to the state budget:

We are extremely grateful that the governor has made higher education a top priority in his proposed budget. The restoration in funding for the University of California will help us maintain access and protect financial aid for thousands of young Californians who look to our campuses as portals of opportunity. We especially applaud the governor’s decision to fully fund Cal Grants, which are critical to the future of so many low- and middle-income students across the state.

The governor’s budget recommendations for UC — which include the restoration of $305 million to the UC budget, $51.3 million to support student access, and $355 million for capital facility construction — are consistent with his and the Legislature’s objective to create new jobs with limited state resources.

This budget will also assist UC in protecting the jobs of current employees and to add more than 3,300 private sector jobs associated with the building and construction detailed in the capital facilities funding proposal.

We appreciate the difficult decisions that face Sacramento in this fiscal crisis. We hope that as the budget process unfolds this summer, the Legislature will support the governor’s proposed funding for all three segments of public higher education: investing in higher education is the key to California’s economic recovery and long-term health.