

## Regular Meeting of the University Senate

November 6, 2003

Hahn Pavilion, Room 108

### Attendance

*Art & Sciences:* Dobkin, Chair; Branch; Herrinton; Lewis; Nadkarni; Otto; Pachence; Payne; Pierson; Sullivan

*Business:* Ayers; Schubert; Smith

*Education:* Monroe

*Law:* Berend; Horton

*Nursing:* Orsi

*Ex-Officio:* Drinan

*Representatives:* Castanos; Gallant; Niederkorn

*Guests:* Sheri Barzal; Cheryl Dean; Anne Donnellan

Dobkin opened the meeting at 12:27 p.m.

### 1. Announcements

**a) Joan B. Kroc gift.** Donnellan read a statement from Lazarus regarding the Joan B. Kroc gift to USD of \$50 million. USD's acceptance is subject to the formal approval of the Board of Trustees. Kroc bequeathed to USD \$40 million to endow a school of peace studies and \$10 million to further endow the Joan Kroc Institute for Peace and Justice. It is Kroc's wish that USD name a founding dean of the new school as soon as possible.

**b) Honorary degree candidate.** Dobkin distributed a biography of Sylvia Earle, an honorary degree candidate recommended by the Honorary Degrees Committee. Further information from the Honorary Degrees Committee will be mailed to Senators.

### 2. Approval of minutes of Oct. 23, 2003

Motion by Payne, seconded by Drinan, to: APPROVE THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 23, 2003 WITH THE FOLLOWING CHANGES:

1) p. 1, paragraph after motion, change to read: "Horton explained that although the request isn't within the Senate's most explicit jurisdiction, ~~it~~ can arguably fit into the general purposes for which the Senate is involved." (Underline denotes addition. Strikeout denotes omission.)

2) p. 2, Vote on minutes, change "minutes" to "minutes as amended."

Vote: 17 – Approve; 0 – Oppose; 0 – Abstain. The minutes as amended passed.

### 3. Motion to create a Senate ad hoc Advisory Committee on Strategic Directions.

The Executive Committee moved to create a Senate ad hoc Advisory Committee (ACSD) on Strategic Directions composed of one faculty from each of the Schools (Business, Education, Law, Nursing), one faculty member from the College of Arts & Sciences, and one staff member from the Staff Employees Association. Members are to be appointed by the Senate through self-nomination or election (if necessary).

*Charge:* The ACSD will provide on-going consultation to the University Strategic Planning Steering Committee on data-gathering processes, review of data (e.g., focus groups, interviews, surveys), and strategic priorities as they are presented for consideration.

Motion to amend by Horton, seconded by Herrinton, to: AMEND THE CHARGE TO READ: Among other activities as the Senate may direct, the ACSD will provide on-going consultation to the University Strategic Planning Steering Committee on data-gathering processes, review of data (e.g., focus groups, interviews, surveys), and strategic priorities as they are presented for

consideration. The Committee, while constituted, will report to the Senate on its activities at each Senate meeting. (Underline denotes addition.)

Vote: 16 – Approve; 0 – Oppose; 1 – Abstain. The motion passed.

Motion to amend by Drinan, seconded by Horton, to: ADD TO THE CHARGE, AFTER “STRATEGIC PRIORITIES,” THE FOLLOWING: “, AND ANY REVISIONS OF MISSION AND GOALS STATEMENTS” TO READ: Among other activities as the Senate may direct, the ACSD will provide on-going consultation to the University Strategic Planning Steering Committee on data-gathering processes, review of data (e.g., focus groups, interviews, surveys), and strategic priorities, and any revisions of mission and goals statements as they are presented for consideration. The Committee, while constituted, will report to the Senate on its activities at each Senate meeting. (Underline denotes addition.)

Vote: 17 – Approve; 0 – Oppose; 0 – Abstain. The motion passed.

Vote on amended motion: 15 – Approve; 0 – Oppose; 2 – Abstain. The motion passed.

Motion by Horton, seconded by Sullivan, to: TAKE UP THE SELECTION PROCESS OF THE ACSD.

Vote: 19 – Approve; 0 – Oppose; 0 – Abstain. The motion passed.

Motion by Horton, seconded by Pachence, that: THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE APPOINT THE MEMBERS OF THE ACSD ON BEHALF OF THE SENATE AND TO DO SO AT THE EARLIEST OPPORTUNITY.

Vote: 17 – Approve; 0 – Oppose; 0 – Abstain. The motion passed.

#### **4. Amended Policy on Tuition Remission.**

An amendment to the “Limitations” paragraph “a,” to replace its first two sentences, is on the floor:

Each employee, spouse of an employee, and dependent child of employee is eligible for the tuition remission benefit for purposes of obtaining a University of San Diego degree or certificate. The benefit must be used in a University degree-conferring or certificate-conferring program.

Motion to amend and substitute by Horton, seconded by Payne, that: THE SENATE TAKE UP THE MOTION ON THE FLOOR AND AMENDED MOTION 2 TOGETHER TO READ:

Each employee, spouse of an employee, and dependent child of employee is eligible for the tuition remission benefit for purposes of obtaining a University of San Diego degree or certificate. The benefit must be used in a University degree-conferring or certificate-conferring program.

~~Remove Limitations, paragraph “a,” and replace with this Condition 5: Employees, their spouses and dependent children may use tuition remission to obtain more than one degree or certificate program each.~~ In the event that more eligible persons apply for tuition remission than can be accommodated within the University’s operating budget, annual costs exceed 1% of the University’s operating budget, then priority will be given to employees, their spouses and dependent children who are in the process of completing or have not yet completed a degree or certificate program. (Underline denotes addition. Strike-out denotes omission.)

Herrinton asked what is meant by “accommodated within the University’s operating budget.” The wording implicitly rather than explicitly addresses the Board-mandated 1% budget cap. Horton responded that the 1% cap is in the policy as a statement of goal. The language in the amended motion is preferable to specifying the 1% cap.

Pierson asked what “in the process of completing” means, and which office or person would make priority decisions in the event that the 1% cap is reached? Pachence said there are procedures in place that define the process of completing a degree.

Senators discussed possible priority categories that could be used if the 1% cap is exceeded.

Vote to combine the motions as a substitute motion: 14 – Approve; 1 – Oppose; 3 – Abstain. The motion passed.

Motion to amend by Payne, seconded by Horton, to: STRIKE “OR HAVE NOT YET COMPLETED.”

Vote: 14 – Approve; 1 – Oppose; 3 – Abstain. The motion passed.

Herrinton said the phrase “obtaining a University of San Diego degree or certificate” limits persons to one degree and it removes the grandfather clause. Horton responded that the language does not limit a person to one degree.

Motion to amend by Horton, seconded by Payne, to: ADD “THEIR FIRST UNIVERSITY” BETWEEN “COMPLETING” AND “DEGREE” TO READ: In the event that more eligible persons apply for tuition remission than can be accommodated within the University’s operating budget, then priority will be given to employees, their spouses and dependent children who are in the process of completing their first University degree or certificate program. (Underline denotes addition.)

Herrinton opposed the amendment because getting a second University degree shouldn’t have a lower priority than getting a first degree, and he said he did not agree with the interpretation that “a University degree” could mean more than one degree.

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Submitted by,

David Sullivan  
Secretary

Peggy Agerton  
Recording Secretary