



NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING*
BERKELEY DIVISION OF THE ACADEMIC SENATE
Thursday, April 19, 2007, 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Booth Auditorium, Boalt Hall, School of Law

Summary of Business

A special meeting of the Berkeley Division was requested by seventeen members of the Division: Miguel Altieri, Professor of Environmental Science, Policy and Management; Charles L. Briggs, Alan Dundes Distinguished Professor in Folklore; Judith Butler, Professor, Rhetoric/Comparative Literature; Ignacio Chapela, Associate Professor of Environmental Science, Policy and Management; Timothy Clark, Professor, History of Art; Lawrence Cohen, Associate Professor of Anthropology; Louise Fortmann, Professor, Environmental Science, Policy and Management; Anne-Lise François, Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature; Gillian Hart, Professor of Geography; Cori Hayden, Assistant Professor of Anthropology; Victoria Kahn, Professor of English and Comparative Literature; Celeste Langan, Associate Professor of English; Paul Rabinow, Professor of Anthropology; Anne Wagner, Professor, History of Art; Richard Walker, Professor of Geography; Michael J. Watts, Professor of Geography; and David Winickoff, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science, Policy and Management.

The special meeting of the Berkeley Division is scheduled for Thursday, April 19, 2007 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in Booth Auditorium, Boalt Hall, School of Law. In accordance with Division Bylaw 5(B), this notice of meeting is sent to the members of the Berkeley Division at least five days of instruction prior to the meeting.

The seventeen members of the Division who requested the special meeting proposed two resolutions as the business for the meeting. The resolutions are noticed in the order of business that follows this summary.

Daniel Melia
Secretary
Berkeley Division

* Communications may be directed to the Academic Senate e-mail address: acad_sen@uclink.berkeley.edu.

ORDER OF BUSINESS

I. Business

Consideration of the following resolutions.

Resolutions proposed by: Miguel Altieri, Professor of Environmental Science, Policy and Management; Charles L. Briggs, Alan Dundes Distinguished Professor in Folklore; Judith Butler, Professor, Rhetoric/Comparative Literature; Ignacio Chapela, Associate Professor of Environmental Science, Policy and Management; Timothy Clark, Professor, History of Art; Lawrence Cohen, Associate Professor of Anthropology; Louise Fortmann, Professor, Environmental Science, Policy and Management; Anne-Lise François, Associate Professor of English and Comparative Literature; Gillian Hart, Professor of Geography; Cori Hayden, Assistant Professor of Anthropology; Victoria Kahn, Professor of English and Comparative Literature; Celeste Langan, Associate Professor of English; Paul Rabinow, Professor of Anthropology; Anne Wagner, Professor, History of Art; Richard Walker, Professor of Geography; Michael J. Watts, Professor of Geography; David Winickoff, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science, Policy and Management.

WHEREAS the public mission of the University of California, Berkeley, mandates the highest standards of scholarly integrity and transparency, particularly in regard to its relationships with for-profit sources of funding, and

WHEREAS the problems resulting from a previous contract with an outside corporation, Novartis, led to an independent review by a team from Michigan State University, which laid out specific “guidelines to govern future university/industry agreements,”¹ and

WHEREAS the Michigan State review explicitly recommends that the University “avoid industry agreements that involve complete academic units or large groups of researchers,” and “encourage broad debate early in the process of developing new research agendas;” and furthermore warns that “There are indications that the overstatement of academic freedom mixed with interests in commercialization is simultaneously eroding the public trust in science and the genuine merits of scholarly autonomy,” and

WHEREAS the proposed BP contract establishing the Energy Biosciences Institute raises deep questions on all these grounds, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the Academic Senate urges the Chancellor that no contract with BP be entered into until a comprehensive review of its terms is executed, with that review taking full account of the recommendations of the Michigan State

¹ See Busch Team External Review of the Collaborative Research Agreement between Novartis Agricultural Discovery Institute, Inc., and The Regents of the University of California

report, and that the renegotiated contract be made available in full for consideration by all members of the Senate.

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WHEREAS the proposed partnership between BP and the University of California, Berkeley raises a host of concerns, chief among them the integrity of the principle of shared governance, and

WHEREAS decisions about appointments and the allocation of resources appear to have gone forward without meaningful and effective Academic Senate review, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the Committee on Committees, in consultation with other relevant Senate bodies, immediately convene an impartial (and appropriately supported) blue ribbon Ad Hoc Committee, composed of senate members not previously involved in the BP negotiations and free of any real or perceived conflict of interest, to review those aspects of the partnership that impinge on the Senate's mandate, to advise the Chancellor of their findings, to provide continued oversight of any subsequent contract between the University and BP, and to develop a set of protocols to govern future contractual agreements between the University and all for-profit funding sources.

II. Other matters authorized by unanimous consent