



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Robert C. Dynes
President

1111 Franklin Street
Oakland, California 94607-5200
Phone: (510) 987-9074
Fax: (510) 987-9086
<http://www.ucop.edu>

August 13, 2007

MEMBERS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY

Dear Colleagues:

Today, I informed The Regents of my intention to step down as President in June 2008, or upon the appointment of my successor, after serving a five-year term in office. I wanted to write to let you know personally of my decision. I made this decision after thinking deeply about the University and of the achievements we have made together over the last four years. I would like to take this opportunity to share some of my thoughts with you.

During a period in which public higher education faced many challenges, the University of California has remained the nation's premier university, serving California, the country, and the world in countless ways. We entered a new era of transparency and heightened public accountability. We forged a compact with the Governor that has put the University on a solid financial footing. We retained the three National Laboratories as part of the University, creating new partnership arrangements at Los Alamos and Lawrence Livermore. We established strategic alliances with innovation leaders in Mexico, Canada, India, and China. We established UC as a national leader in the effort to reform K-12 education in science and mathematics, a priority in keeping this state and this nation competitive on the world stage. Finally, we should all take great pride in the successful launch of our long-awaited tenth campus, the University of California, Merced, which now serves as an engine for educational opportunity and economic growth in the Central Valley of California.

These are just a few of the accomplishments in which I take great pride. They were made possible by an outstanding and diverse UC leadership team that has been strengthened by key hires in recent years. That team is ready to take the University to even greater heights of excellence under a new President.

Throughout my tenure as President, I have made every effort to increase the ethnic and gender diversity of the senior administration and to lead the way for a more diverse faculty, student body, and staff. While I worked hard towards this goal, and

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acknowledge the gains made, I remain dissatisfied. I consider this an area that should be of utmost importance to my successor and the overall leadership of the University of California.

I have asked Provost Wyatt R. Hume to act as the University's Chief Operating Officer, in addition to his other duties, effective immediately and until such time as my successor is in place. In addition to overseeing all aspects of the University's day-to-day operations, Provost Hume will bring forward the excellent work that has been done by the Long Range Guidance Team in planning for doctoral and professional education and in systemwide academic planning. Working with him, Executive Vice President Katherine N. Lapp will link the priorities that flow from the planning work to a new and more open budgetary process for the system. Executive Vice President Bruce Darling will continue to explore new avenues for more effective advocacy, particularly with State government.

I will be returning to my faculty position next year, but, over the next 10 months, I will continue to focus on a variety of UC priorities, such as the critical work of expanding our research, development, and delivery portfolio and its impact. The *Power of 10* statewide campus visits that I began in the southern region in the spring will continue. This will be a busy and productive academic year, and, as I have since October 2003, I will communicate with you directly and frequently.

In closing, I want you to know that any success the University and I have enjoyed during my tenure has been due in no small part to the devoted efforts of our faculty and staff. You are the heart and soul of the University of California, and I am deeply grateful for all you have done and continue to do. It has been an honor and privilege to call you my colleagues for the past 17 years. I am intensely proud of this institution and of all those associated with it, and I believe passionately that the University will continue to grow in strength and value. It will be my pleasure to continue to be part of it and to remain your colleague.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bob Dynes", written in a cursive style.

Robert C. Dynes