CHANCELLORS' STATEMENT
November 6, 2014

As chancellors of the University of California, we have been entrusted by our students and their families to provide the best education possible at the most affordable price. We have managed to do this even through the recent recession, when severe cutbacks in State support forced us to make painful choices, including those that directly affected the quality of education and the student experience on our campuses. Tuition also increased, often with little advance notice, but we maintained our robust financial aid program under which about 55 percent of our California undergraduates have paid no tuition and fees.

California’s economy is now back on track and we cannot wait any longer to invest in the education of our state’s students and in California’s future. Our campuses have become leaner and more efficient — but there remains a funding gap that, if left unaddressed, imperils the future of the University of California. State funding for the University is still $460 million below what it was in 2007-08, even though we are educating thousands more California students.

This is why we fully support the long-term stability plan for tuition and financial aid that the UC Board of Regents will consider at its November 19th meeting. The plan addresses our obligation to students and their families to provide them with the best education possible at the most affordable price. It is predictable and fair, and it allows families to plan ahead. It enables us to enroll thousands more California students, maintains our robust financial aid program, and makes essential investments in academic quality. It is important to note that under this proposed plan, about 55 percent of our California undergraduates will continue to pay no systemwide tuition or fees.

We hope students, families, alumni, faculty, staff, and all Californians join with us in urging the state to partner with us in ensuring that the University of California remains the best public university in the world.

Chancellor Nicholas B. Dirks
University of California, Berkeley

Chancellor Gene Block
University of California, Los Angeles

Chancellor Pradeep Khosla
University of California, San Diego

Chancellor George R. Blumenthal
University of California, Santa Cruz

Chancellor Linda Katehi
University of California, Davis

Chancellor Dorothy Leland
University of California, Merced

Chancellor Sam Hawgood
University of California, San Francisco

Chancellor Howard Gillman
University of California, Irvine

Chancellor Kim A. Wilcox
University of California, Riverside

Chancellor Henry T. Yang
University of California, Santa Barbara