

AGENDA

COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION AND RULES

Meeting: 3:15 p.m., Tuesday, May 10, 2005
Glenn S. Dumke Auditorium

Debra S. Farar, Chair
Larry L. Adamson
Jeffrey L. Bleich
Herbert L. Carter
George G. Gowgani
Eric Guerra
William Hauck
Melinda Guzman Moore

Consent Items

Approval of Minutes of March 15, 2005

1. Schedule of Board of Trustees' Meetings, 2006, *Action*

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF
COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION AND RULES**

**Trustees of The California State University
Glenn S. Dumke Conference Center
401 Golden Shore
Long Beach, California**

March 15, 2005

Members Present

Debra S. Farar, Chair
Anthony M. Vitti, Vice Chair
Larry L. Adamson
Herbert L. Carter
George G. Gowgani
Murray L. Galinson, Chair, Board of Trustees
William Hauck
Shailesh J. Mehta
Charles B. Reed, Chancellor

Chair Farar called the meeting to order.

Consent Items

Approval of Minutes

Chair Farar presented the minutes as a consent item. The item was approved as submitted.

Discussion Items

Proposed Schedule of Board of Trustees' Meetings, 2006

Chair Farar noted that the schedule of meetings for next year was set forth in the agenda materials. She called for questions or discussion. Hearing none, the item was approved as submitted.

Experimental Change in Placement of Public Comment at Board

Chair Farar stated that the item proposed to experiment during the next 3 board meetings with moving the placement of the public comment period to just after the roll call in the Plenary session, and to limit that item to no more than 30 minutes. She invited General Counsel Helwick to present the item.

Ms. Helwick explained that under the Bagley Keene Act, the Open Meeting legislation applicable to the Board of Trustees, the Board must take public comments on agenda items. While not required in the statute, the Board traditionally also accepts general public comments at

the end of each meeting. This has become problematic, she continued, as the timing is hard to predict, some Board members must depart before the comment period is completed, and it can end the meetings on a low-note. This item proposes that for the next three meetings the public comment period be moved to just after the Plenary session role call and time devoted to public comment be limited to no more than 30 minutes. Ms. Helwick said that advanced written notice of the change would be provided to members of the public wishing to register to speak and staff would work with speakers or groups to ensure that appropriate time be allotted to present the issues. It is anticipated, she added, that the currently applicable 3-minute time limitation on speakers would continue to apply. Ms. Helwick stated that the change could result in a better balance between the Board's wish to receive comments from the public and at the same time accomplish the work of the agenda within the limited time period scheduled for Board meetings. This item proposes the public comment period be moved at the May, July and September meetings and, if the experiment is successful, appropriate information and action items to make the change permanent would be brought to the Board during that time period.

Chair Farar called for questions. Chair Galinson expressed his support for the idea, provided that the time limit could be expanded on the spot beyond the 30 minutes if needed. Ms. Helwick assured him that it could.

Chair Farar called for further discussion. Dr. Charles Goetzl, president, Academic Professionals of California, spoke in favor of the new approach. He stated he has attended at all but 3 Board meetings over the last 10 years, and has experienced the frustration of the speakers being allowed to speak only at the end of the plenary session. He thought the proposal was a very positive and creative approach to addressing the issue. He was heartened to hear Ms. Helwick state that the period could be extended beyond the 30-minute limitation. Dr. Goetzl asked that, as the new approach was tried during the next 3 meetings, staff keep track of the number of speakers who did not get to speak or how much time would have been needed to accommodate everyone who did wish to speak, and then if a permanent change is made the time could be modified from 30 minutes to 45 minutes to an hour, to accommodate the public as much as possible. He added that 30 minutes every other month was only 3 hours a year that the general public has to address the Board. He thought it very important that the public have the opportunity to address the Board on various issues. Those representing employee organizations, he continued, had an opportunity at various committee meetings to address issues on the agenda. However, number of issues that do not get addressed on the agenda need to be dealt with at the plenary public comment session, and he stated that this approach could be very helpful.

There was no further discussion or questions and the item was approved.

Chair Farar adjourned the meeting.

COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION AND RULES

Schedule of Board of Trustees' Meetings, 2006

Presentation By

Christine Helwick
General Counsel

Summary

The following resolution adopting a schedule of meetings of the Board of Trustees for 2006 is presented for approval.

RESOLVED, By the Board of Trustees of The California State University, that the following schedule of meetings for 2006 is adopted:

2006		
January 31 & February 1	Tuesday – Wednesday	Headquarters
March 14 – 15	Tuesday – Wednesday	Headquarters
May 16 – 17	Tuesday – Wednesday	Headquarters
July 18 – 19	Tuesday – Wednesday	Headquarters
September 19 – 20	Tuesday – Wednesday	Headquarters
October 26	Thursday	Headquarters
November 14 – 15	Tuesday – Wednesday	Headquarters