

**Notes  
Council of Deans  
February 3, 2009**

**Chancellor's Remarks (Birgeneau)**

Chancellor Birgeneau noted that the recent AFSCME contract settlement will provide a cost-of-living adjustment to the lowest-wage staff on the campuses. He briefed the Council of Deans on recent Regents items (the Blue and Gold fund), on an upcoming Regents item (the revision the START program, which will now require a minimum 5% reduction of work time rather than the current 10%), and discussions at Office of the President concerning retirement fund contributions, the distribution of Cal Grant funds on campuses, and a capital projects funding update.

**Campus Budget Issues (Breslauer)**

Handouts: Budget Strategy Timeline and 2009-10 UC Berkeley Medium-Term Restructuring Initiatives (Confidential).

EVCP Breslauer noted that the budget worksheets had been distributed to deans' offices since the last Council of Deans meeting.

EVCP Breslauer said that the Regents seemed to approve of the ideas presented in the 2009-10 UC Berkeley Medium-Term Restructuring Initiatives handout. It is hoped that the Regents will approve the reduction of time necessary to participate in the START program, and that this reduction will encourage more staff to participate.

There was a lengthy discussion among the Council of Deans membership about the budget items listed on both handouts.

**Faculty Retirement Planning Program (Zedeck)**

Handout: Faculty Retirement Planning Program (FRPP)

VP Zedeck led a discussion about this program and requested comments on the handout. Information about the program should be distributed to deans and chairs during the week of February 9.

**Strategic Communications (Homes/Gilmore/Mogulof)**

Claire Holmes noted that the Office of Public Affairs coordinates two primary functions for the University - promoting the University of California and protecting the name and reputation of the University of California. In order to better serve the campus, the staff in Public Affairs have been reorganized to concentrate on one or the other of these functions. AVC Holmes then introduced Dan Mogulof and Janet Gilmore, who are available to assist the deans with emerging and/or anticipated issues that may have a public component. Their contact information is as follows:

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Please send comments to [jwfong@berkeley.edu](mailto:jwfong@berkeley.edu). Council of Deans agendas and notes are available on the Web at <http://evcp.chance.berkeley.edu/CouncilOfDeans/indexCOD.htm>.