

## **AGENDA**

### **COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION AND RULES**

**Meeting: 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, July 19, 2005**  
**Glenn S. Dumke Auditorium**

George G. Gowgani, Chair  
Debra S. Farar, Vice Chair  
Jeffrey L. Bleich  
Herbert L. Carter  
Carol R. Chandler  
Melinda Guzman Moore  
Ricardo F. Icaza

#### **Consent Items**

Approval of Minutes of May 10, 2005

1. Proposed Permanent Change in Placement of Public Comment at Board Meetings, *Information*

**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**

**May 10, 2005**

**Members Present**

Debra S. Farar, Chair  
Larry L. Adamson  
Jeffrey L. Bleich  
Herbert L. Carter  
Murray L. Galinson, Chair of the Board  
George G. Gowgani  
Eric Guerra  
William Hauck  
Melinda Guzman Moore  
Charles B. Reed, Chancellor

Chair Farar called the meeting to order.

**Consent Items**

Chair Farar noted that there were two consent items on the agenda, the Approval of Minutes and the approval of the 2006 Board of Trustees' Meeting Schedule. She stated that unless there were objections, these items stand approved by consent. Hearing none, the items were approved as submitted.

Chair Farar adjourned the meeting.

## **COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION AND RULES**

### **Proposed Permanent Change in Placement of Public Comment at Board Meetings**

Presentation By

Christine Helwick  
General Counsel

#### **Summary**

In March, the Board implemented on an experimental basis, a change in the order of business for the next three meetings. The public comment period was moved up from the end of the plenary session agenda to just after the roll is taken, and also was limited to 30 minutes. The first meeting implementing this change took place in May. A permanent change in the Trustees' Rules must be presented once for information, and at a subsequent meeting for action. This item is presented for information now, so the Board can take action in September to make the experimental change permanent, if it determines that the change has proved to be a useful way to balance the competing interests in gaining broad public input while at the same time completing business in a reasonable amount of time.

#### **Background**

The Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act applicable to CSU Board of Trustee meetings mandates an opportunity for the public to address items on Committee and Board agendas, and also gives the Board discretion to receive other public testimony. Until the experimental change in the order of business implemented in March 2005, the Board had traditionally received public comments, unrelated to items on the agenda, at the close of its business and just before the Board meeting adjourned. This placement proved frustrating to speakers, inconvenient for Trustees, and was difficult to bracket in time. It also resulted in speakers appearing after Trustees had departed, and adjournment of the Board meetings on a particularly low note.

This item is presented for information at this meeting, in order to allow the Board to take action at the September 2005 meeting to amend the Rules and make permanent the relocation of the public comment period in the order of business at Board meetings. The proposed Rule change would move the public comment period on items unrelated to the agenda to just after the roll is taken in the plenary session and before the Board undertakes its business agenda, and limit the time for public comment to 30 minutes. The time would be coordinated and allocated amongst individual speakers and/or specific issues in advance, depending on the number of speakers who sign up and the topics they wish to address. The public would be advised of the time limitation, and individual speakers would be advised of their own time allocations in advance. Staff would continue to coordinate with all speakers to ensure that the Board receives the broadest input on

issues, while still allotting sufficient time to complete its regular business. The Chair would have discretion to extend the 30 minute time limit in unusual circumstances.

**Proposed Permanent Change in the Order of Business established in the Rules Governing the Board to be Presented for Action in September:**

**RESOLVED** that the order of business set forth in Section III, § 6 of the Rules Governing the Board of Trustees of the California State University be amended as follows:

Call to order and Roll Call  
Public Comments  
Reports of the Chair and the Chancellor  
Approval of the Minutes  
Reports of Standing and Special Committees  
Adjournment to next regular meeting