

Approved at
3-19-82
Regents meeting.

MAR 25 1982

OFFICE OF THE CHANCELLOR		
NAME	DATE	INIT.
DHC	3/25	RL

9-29-98
from L. Wittaker
to D. Waldman

NE

REGENTS' EXCERPT

Committee on Ed Policy - Exec
Item # 308X

ESTABLISHMENT AND NAMING OF ENDOWED CHAIR, COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, BERKELEY CAMPUS (FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL RESOURCE ECONOMICS):

H. That the establishment of an endowed chair in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, College of Natural Resources, Berkeley campus, be approved, and that the

Chair be named the George W. and Elsie M. Robinson Chair in Food and Agricultural Resource Economics, contingent on receipt by the University of California, Berkeley Foundation, of an endowment of at least \$250,000 for support of the Chair, and contingent also on receipt of a binding commitment from the Foundation that the Foundation will pay to The Regents the income of the Chair endowment fund held by the Foundation.

(Action will be released to the public upon fulfillment of the donor's pledge.)

PROPOSED REGENTS' AGENDA ITEM

Office of the Vice President—
Financial and Business Management
February 26, 1982

ITEM NO. 10
Committee on Educational Policy
Item for Action
Nonroutine Item
Executive Session*

JRgin
3-4-82

- ✓ Drafted by Campus/Haden CBH
- ✓ Reviewed by Coordinator Englezos EEE
- ✓ Approved by University Controller Pastrone DLA 3/4
- ✓ Approved by Acting Vice President Cheit EPC 3/4
- Coordinated with:
 - ✓ General Counsel Reidhaar PBP
 - ✓ Vice President Frazer WRF
 - ✓ Vice President Kleingartner AK
 - ✓ University Controller Pastrone JAP

Approved by the President _____

TO MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATIONAL POLICY:

ITEM FOR ACTION

For Meeting of March 18, 1982

RE: ESTABLISHMENT AND NAMING OF ENDOWED CHAIR, COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES, BERKELEY CAMPUS

The President recommends that the Committee on Educational Policy recommend to The Regents: That the establishment of an endowed chair in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, College of Natural Resources, Berkeley campus, be approved, and that the Chair be named the George W. and Elsie M. Robinson Chair in Food and Agricultural Resource Economics, contingent on receipt by the University of California, Berkeley Foundation of an endowment of at least \$250,000 for support of the Chair, and contingent also on receipt of a binding commitment from the Foundation that the Foundation will pay to The Regents the income of the Chair endowment fund held by the Foundation.

BACKGROUND

The proposed George W. and Elsie M. Robinson Chair in Food and Agricultural Resource Economics, College of Natural Resources, Berkeley campus, would be funded by an

*Action will be released to the public on the working day following the date of action.

endowment of \$300,000 pledged for that purpose to the University of California, Berkeley Foundation by Elsie M. Robinson. An initial pledge installment of \$54,000 has been received by the Foundation, with the understanding that, contingent on Chair approval by The Regents, it would be placed in an endowment account for support of the Chair. Subsequent installments would be placed in that account as received from Mrs. Robinson until the full endowment of \$300,000 is reached. In the event of Mrs. Robinson's death before fulfillment of the pledge, her Will provides for payment of the balance by bequest. If for any reason an endowment sufficient to fund the Chair is not reached, income from the existing endowment would be transferred according to policy to the College of Natural Resources for use for purposes related to the proposed purpose of the Chair.

Following discussions with representatives of the Berkeley campus, Mrs. Robinson determined that the gift of most benefit to the University would be the endowment of a chair in food and agricultural resource economics, a field of special interest to her late husband, George W. Robinson. Mr. Robinson received his B.A. degree in economics from the Berkeley campus in 1933 and his J.D. degree from Boalt Hall in 1936. Following five years of law practice in Mariposa and four years of service in the U.S. Air Force during World War II, he formed a partnership with his brother and established the Robinson Cattle Company near Merced. He was active in the ranching business until his retirement. Mr. Robinson was an active supporter of the Berkeley campus both as a student and as an alumnus, was a life member of the California Alumni Association, and contributed generously to many campus programs, especially in athletics.

His widow, Elsie Merrill Robinson, is a member of the Class of 1931, Berkeley campus, having earned her B.A. degree in history. She is a former high school teacher. Her continuing support of such public service organizations as the Presbyterian Church

Foundation's agricultural mission, which trains and assists people in the production of food, attests to the interest in agriculture and agricultural research she shared with her husband.

The proposed George W. and Elsie M. Robinson Chair in Food and Agricultural Resource Economics would focus on the problems of the future agricultural resource base and world food production and distribution, with special emphasis on the depletion of agricultural land and the loss of topsoil. It is hoped that the Chair would help further the understanding of relationships between State, federal, and international resource, food, and financial systems through analysis of key factors in each of these systems.

The annual income from the Chair endowment would be transferred by the University of California, Berkeley Foundation to The Regents according to policy, and would be made available to the Chair holder in support of teaching and research, subject to the appropriate University policy. Salary support and PTE would be provided by the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. In keeping with policy, establishment of this Chair has been approved by the Berkeley Division of the Academic Senate.