

Council of UC Staff Assemblies (CUCSA)
Quarterly Meeting at University of California, Santa Cruz
Santa Cruz, California
Tuesday & Wednesday, February 10-12, 2003

Press Release

The Council of UC Staff Assemblies (CUCSA) held its third quarterly meeting of the 2002-2003 academic year on the campus of UC Santa Cruz, February 10-12, 2003. The Council is an advisory body made up of staff delegates from each of the nine campuses and two national laboratories, and the Office of the President. CUCSA meets on a quarterly basis, rotating between campuses and the laboratories to discuss issues of importance to staff and to provide feedback to the Office of the President on these issues.

Chancellor M.R.C. Greenwood greeted delegates and talked about the changes the UC Santa Cruz campus has experienced over the past few years. The increase in enrollment is most notable. She also highlighted the international attention some of the programs are getting. She talked about the importance of staff to the changing mission and increase in enrollment the UCSC has had in the past and will continue to see. She gave an update on the latest news regarding the current economic status of UC and how that relates with the State budget situation.

Regent John Davies met with delegates regarding the outcome of the Staff Advisory Committee Report for Selection of the UC President – CLOSED SESSION.

CUCSA business was addressed. The Staff Advisory Committee reported out. Delegates noted the need to update the By-Law's and the current Mission Statement. Discussion took place regarding UC Service Pins. Chair Souder reminded delegates about upcoming elections for CUCSA Officers positions at the June meeting. Discussion took place about upcoming Regent meetings and development of a Staff Regent Committee.

Kathy Day and Elizabeth Gillis from UCB gave a presentation regarding the UCB Faculty Staff Partnership Committee. The presentation highlighted the history of the partnership with CUCSA and the current status of the Partnership.

Other meeting guests included Joe Lewis, Manager of the UCOP Customer Service Center in Human Resources and Benefits where he gave a presentation regarding the UCOP Call Center. Stan Kowalski, gave an update on the State budget crisis and how the resulting effect on UC is unclear. He presented possible money saving options currently being reviewed. Mr. Kowalski is researching the subject of a Staff Regent. Paul Schwartz, Director of Communications for Human Resources and Labor Relations gave a presentation on UCOP communications and the State budget crisis.

Regent Alfredo Terrazas, Alumni Regent shared information about the history and current structure of the UC Regents. He provided a recommendation to CUCSA that instead of presenting the entire annual report to the Regents, that we instead present an executive summary with an attached annual report. He addressed the State budgetary situation and how cuts in many areas will take place. He shared that painful decisions need to be made. In his closing comments, he noted that it is now more important than ever to clearly define who CUCSA is as opposed to having others define the Council.

Work Group Committees reported out on their status. Work groups are: Fee Waiver; Communications; Policy and Procedures and the Faculty Staff Partnership committee.