

STAFF MAKING A DIFFERENCE: CUCSA CELEBRATES ITS 25th YEAR!

The Council of UC Staff Assemblies (CUCSA) has been in existence since 1974 and is funded by the Office of the President and the individual UC campuses. CUCSA provides a valuable forum for staff to share best practices, discuss issues, and offer solutions. The Council advises the Office of the President on issues that affect the entire UC community and creates an avenue for staff to contribute to UC's mission of excellence in teaching, research, and community service. Two delegates from each campus and the Office of the President meet quarterly, rotating sites among the local staff assemblies. The Council invites UC Regents, faculty, and leaders from Office of the President and the campuses to their quarterly meetings for dialogues on various issues of systemwide concern. CUCSA has recently welcomed delegates from the Los Alamos and the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratories and hopes soon to include delegates from the Lawrence Livermore Lab.

Selected Accomplishments

- 3 Successfully advocated for domestic partner benefits for all UC employees.
- 3 Facilitated discussion of best practices leading to the Human Resources Management Initiative and the Strategic Plan for Employee Relations.
- 3 Co-sponsored (with the Systemwide Academic Council) the Faculty/Staff Partnership Task Force to focus on relations between staff and faculty.
- 3 Contributed to discussions on the systemwide Business Officers Institute, a management training program for UC staff.

Current Focus

- 3 Work-life issues for staff and faculty.
- 3 Promoting staff presence on the Board of Regents.
- **Tidal Wave II (the projected enrollment spurt through 2010) recommendations from a staff perspective.**
- **UC fee waivers for dependents of staff and faculty employees.**
- **Innovative ways to recognize and reward outstanding staff and faculty.**

For more information on CUCSA and its activities, please contact

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Examples of Local Staff Assembly Activities

Appreciation and Recognition

- ▶ Awards programs (Excellence in Management, Citation of Excellence)
- ▶ Annual Staff Appreciation Day/Week
- ▶ Staff memorial ceremonies

Training Programs

- ▶ Brownbag informational sessions
- ▶ Career development handbooks
- ▶ Staff internship programs

Scholarships

- ▶ Fundraising activities
- ▶ Competitions
- ▶ Recognition ceremonies

Communications

- ▶ Websites
- ▶ Newsletters
- ▶ Email and listserv groups
- ▶ Staff/faculty relations
- ▶ Staff forums/liaison with Chancellors and UC administration
- ▶ Advisors to Office of the President and local campus administrators

Networking

- ▶ New member receptions, barbecues, breakfasts, lunches
- ▶ Holiday parties

Philanthropy

- ▶ Holiday food and toy drives
- ▶ Bone marrow, other health-related funding drives
- ▶ Catastrophic leave-sharing for staff
- ▶ Staff welfare programs

Outreach

- ▶ Service providers recognition
- ▶ Benefits fairs
- ▶ Staff resources fairs
- ▶ Staff service brochures