

September 26, 2005

CUCSA: <http://www.ucop.edu/cucsa/>

PRESS RELEASE

The Council of UC Staff Assemblies (CUCSA) held its first quarterly meeting of the 2005-06 academic year at UC Riverside on September 7-9, 2005. The Council is an advisory body composed of two delegates from each of the ten campuses, three national laboratories, and Office of the President. Officers include Rosemary Anderson, Chair (UC Santa Cruz); Bill Johansen, Chair-Elect (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory); and Debra Richerson, Secretary (UC Office of the President). CUCSA meets on a quarterly basis, rotating between the campuses, the national labs, and the Office of the President to promote communication and to solicit feedback on interests of primary concern to staff.

CUCSA ORIENTATION

New and returning delegates participated in exercises designed to orient them to the mission of CUCSA, for sharing the organization's goals and objectives this academic year, and building working relationships. Delegates participated in an icebreaker, and SWOT exercise covering Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats.

- Staff Plaza and Memorial Garden viewing, located on campus and dedicated to the recognition and remembrance of UCR staff members. The pathways leading to the center are lined with engraved markers "In Memory of" those career staff who passed away during active employment at UCR.

OFFICIAL WELCOME FROM UC RIVERSIDE

On September 8, 2005 Chancellor France A. Córdova welcomed CUCSA delegates to UC Riverside on the first day of their quarterly meeting. Chancellor Cordova, a nationally recognized astrophysicist, has 20 years service with UC where she has served as professor of physics and Vice Chancellor of Research at UC Santa Barbara. Remarks included comment on budget cuts impacting staffing levels but acknowledgment of staff efforts in support of the UCR mission. Chancellor Cordova outlined three primary initiatives.

- Establish research-based school of medicine, and by January 2006 establish Health Sciences Research Institute (HSRI) in biomedical sciences.
- California Community College Collaborative (C4) promotes data driven policy promulgation in higher education and provides research experience opportunities for college students, including promoting transfer to four year colleges.
- Diversity Initiative in faculty, staff, and graduate student population, building on the strength of the existing commitment to excellence and diversity in the student body. Recently hosted summit for faculty diversity. UCR is taking a leadership position encouraging dialogue among UC campuses for building diversity.

UCR STAFF RECOGNITION of **David Stevens**, UCR Maintenance Carpenter, recipient of the “People Helping People” award, sponsored by Service Plus Credit Union in partnership with the UC Riverside Staff Assembly. CUCSA Chair Anderson presented Mr. Stevens with a certificate in recognition of his exemplary contributions to the community of Riverside. This award highlights a best practice for recognizing outstanding staff service beyond professional endeavors and in support of the community.

DAVE MILLER, Staff Advisor to the Regents - Committee on Grounds and Buildings, UCLA

Mr. Miller, immediate past Chair of CUCSA, addressed CUCSA during its quarterly meeting in Riverside. He reviewed the previous 10 year effort to promote creation of an ongoing position for staff at The Regents table. This effort led to the creation of a new staff advisor position piloted this year. Also serving in this role is David Bell, UCSF, who served as CUCSA Chair in 2003-2004, and currently serves as the Staff Advisor to the Regent’s Committee on Educational Policy. This year’s efforts are focused on institutionalizing the position by establishing a selection process. Mr. Miller currently sees his role as promoting staff issues and helping The Regents gain a deeper understanding of the University.

CUCSA WORK GROUP FORMATION FOR 2005-2006

CUCSA work groups formed, incorporating new delegate members and welcoming returning members for building on the important work group efforts of past years on four continuing topics: Diversity; Workforce Evolution; Development; and Policies and Procedures. The work groups established new goals and objectives and reconfirmed past accomplishments for guiding their work which typically leads to reports published at year-end.

ROSEMARY MONROE, Chief Human Resources Officer, UCOP

Ms. Monroe addressed CUCSA regarding various Human Resources matters, including: 2006 health and welfare program and information on health care premium costs; appropriate consistency in implementation and interpretation of policy and procedures at local level in areas such as Sexual Harassment, Discrimination, Consensual Relationships, and Ethics; and information on a web based sexual harassment course required for supervisors.

SANTA CRUZ CUCSA MEETING ANNOUNCED

The next CUCSA meeting will be hosted by UC Santa Cruz on December 7-9, 2005.

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