OP celebrates ‘Take our Daughters and Sons to Work Day’

Nearly 80 children and their parents participated in the inaugural OP wide ‘Take our Daughters and Sons to Work Day’. Broken into groups by age, the youngsters saw the full breadth of the work of OP. They toured the Franklin building, developed research plans and learned about patents, built their own websites, wrote their résumés and honed their interview skills, among other activities. Sponsored by the Family Resource Network, in partnership with the Office of the President’s Staff Assembly, the day was planned by a team that included OP Staff Assembly Members Jeanie Urban, Candace Jones, Emma Sebastian and Matthew Leet. 13 departments were represented featuring interactive sessions that would appeal to a wide range of children, from age 8 to 18. An army of volunteers helped with registration, shepherding kids between sessions and serving lunch. The day was a smashing success, judging from the kudos that came in from parents -

“The events were of very high quality and the kids and volunteer staff all seemed very engaged. Great collective spirit!”

“I was beyond impressed with the amount of caring and passion that was so clearly evident throughout. The carefully prepared presentations and instruction, the photo-op with Janet Napolitano, the food that was healthy, yet with some indulgent items mixed in, the wonderful senior executive speakers including Rachael Nava.”

OP’s event was part of a national campaign led by the Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Foundation, dedicated to developing innovative strategies and research-based activities in informal educational programs that empower girls and boys in all sectors of society to confront and overcome societal messages about youth so that they may reach their full potential. http://link.ucop.edu/2015/05/05/when-the-kids-came-to-op/

UCOP honors 90 staff for impact, innovation and service milestones

President Janet Napolitano, Provost Aimée Dorr, Chief Operating Officer Rachael Nava and Vice President of Human Resources Dwaine Duckett celebrated the winners of this year’s Innovation and Impact Awards and staff members who have reached service milestones of 10 years or more on April 29 at the Elihu Harris State Office Building. The Innovation and Impact Awards, now in their fourth year, are given annually to recognize employee achievement in three categories. Nominations were reviewed by selection committees made up of past Innovation and Impact Award winners and staff affinity group leaders, who made recommendations to President Napolitano. “The nominations represented a remarkable range of achievement from across UCOP,” Dorr noted before asking each honoree to step forward. Awardees included OP Staff Assembly Members Tracy Fitzgerald, Candace Jones and Karla Wood. http://link.ucop.edu/2015/05/05/ucop-honors-90-staff-for-innovation-and-service-milestones/

OP Staff Participate in Earth Day Service projects

UCOP staff and their families turned out to clean up Channel Park at Oakland’s Lake Merritt on April 18. They removed weeds and invasive plants, picked up trash and cleaned up overgrown walkways, making the area more enjoyable for the Lake Merritt community and the wildlife that inhabits the open space from the lake to the estuary.

“From the looks and sounds of things, everyone seemed to be having a good time, and there is no doubt Channel Park looks a thousand times better,” wrote Judy Johnson, steward of the park, in a note of thanks. Clean-up was on the minds of staff back at the office too. Employees recycled 8,123 pounds of paper in the non-records purge. That’s almost 5,000 pounds more than last year and the equivalent of more than 30 four-drawer lateral filing cabinets. Other Earth Day activities included a talk on climate change by Erin Riordan, UC Natural Reserve System Research Affiliate and Postdoctoral Scholar at UCLA and UCB and a Sustainability Faire. http://link.ucop.edu/2015/05/11/ucop-celebrates-earth-day-with-multiple-events/

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