



UC Irvine Campus Update

March 2016

Cool Campus Challenge

After 10 weeks of competition in the first ever Cool Campus Challenge, UC Irvine emerged victorious after a tight race to the finish. Over 19,000 participants took up the challenge to reduce their personal carbon footprints, including students, staff and faculty from all 10 UC campuses as well as the UC Office of the President. Even UC President Janet Napolitano got in on the challenge.

The challenge included 37 different pledges, targeting actions anyone can take on an everyday basis to reduce their energy and carbon footprint from lighting, computer use, purchasing, heating and cooling, and transportation. Although Irvine walked away with the top prize, the big winner was the entire University of California. The habits learned over the course of the challenge will help change attitudes and the way climate change is discussed on campuses, but they also will have a measurable impact on CO₂ emissions. If the participants keep up their pledges through the year, it will reduce the university's carbon emissions by 15.5 million pounds, equivalent to taking 1,900 cars off the road, saving 800,000 gallons gasoline.

Excerpts taken from article at: <http://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/news/cool-campus-challenge-crowns-winner>

Engagement Town Hall

Staff Assembly, CUCSA, the Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Staff (CACS) and Human Resources hosted a townhall on January 27, 2016. It was well attended with nearly 100 staff. Guests from UCOP included Marie-Ann Hairston, Director of Employee Relations & Juliann Martinez, Employee Relations Specialist were also in attendance. The purpose of the town hall was to present the UCI Campus results from the UC Engagement Survey 2015 and identify key components of staff engagement. After a brief presentation, staff broke out into small groups discuss ways in which UCI can increase staff engagement.

Provost event

About 75 staff members rubbed elbows with Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Enrique Lavernia Feb. 8 at the Staff Assembly-hosted meet-and-greet event at the Student Center. While attendees enjoyed coffee and desserts, Lavernia shared his personal experiences as a faculty member at UCI in the late 1980s and 1990s, his transition to dean of UC Davis' College of Engineering, and his duties as provost since his return to campus in July. He also expressed his appreciation for the contributions of UCI's dedicated staff.

Lavernia gave a short presentation about the developing Strategic Plan, in which he outlined areas for growth and expressed the importance of engaging with the community to create more partnerships. Attendees had a chance to submit questions to the provost, which ranged from light-hearted to serious in topic including inquiring about his favorite book, what he likes to do for fun and what he envisions for the campus in the next five years. Lavernia recommended *The Contrarian's Guide to Leadership* by Steven Sample and shared he spends much of his free time obsessing about his two college-aged children. As for the future? "My vision for the campus is one that brings in the outside community as an inspired partner to help us get to where we want to go. We can't do it on our own."

Excerpts taken from article at: <https://zotline.communications.uci.edu/blog/2016/02/16/staff-assembly-hosts-meet-and-greet-with-the-provost/>