



## **Campus Update December 2011**

### **Meeting with President of Cornell University for WASC accreditation**

UCSB is in the review process for regional accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. As part of this review the chair of the review committee, Dr. David Skorton, President of Cornell University, asked to meet with Staff leadership to discuss what he saw as a worrisome reduction in the staff workforce. Staff Assembly, along with representatives from other staff groups on campus met with him to give our perspective on staff morale and what seems to be an unsustainable reduction in staff. He was open to our remarks and promised to include a summary in his meeting with the Chancellor and in his recommendation report.

### **Staff Advisor to the Regents visit UCSB**

Penny Herbert and Kevin Smith visited UCSB on October 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. Staff Assembly held a lunch meeting with them to discuss concerns and prominent staff issues. All staff were invited to a town hall meeting. Roughly 30 were in attendance. Release time for professional development and problems with the clustering were common concerns.

### **Halloween Decorating and Costume Competition**

Staff Assembly held its 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween decorating and Costume Competition. 10 departments entered the decorating contest. A pizza party was awarded to the winning department. It was another successful event to boost staff morale.

### **Visit by Provost & Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs Lawrence Pitts**

Lawrence Pitts visited UCSB on November 4<sup>th</sup>. Included in his agenda was a meeting with Staff Leadership. It was an open dialogue where staff offered opinions on current staff issues, and Provost Pitts gave insight and feedback. Included in the discussion were performance evaluations. Provost Pitts discussed OP's move to normalize evaluations across units.

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