



Office of the President  
**Staff Assembly**  
University of California

## **UCOP Campus Update June 2013**

### **Celebrate National Poetry Month**

The entire month of April was National Poetry Month and OP Staff Assembly celebrated by holding an open mic poetry reading on April 18. This event was a resounding success, with participants reading their own poems and others reading poems by Robert Frost, Kay Ryan and other more famous scribes. One individual performed a sing-along of John Prine's "Angel from Montgomery" and another read an original poem composed in Chinese along with an English translation. Expanding on the definition of "reading", the group also enjoyed an online video of a spoken-word performance. The event received such awesome feedback that another open mic poetry reading was scheduled and took place on May 9.

### **Admissions/Financial Aid Brown Bag Series**

OP Staff Assembly sponsored a series of workshops this year on financial aid for UCOP employees presented by Nancy Coolidge, Associate Director of Student Financial Support. Our third and final brown bag on May 7, which was very well attended, focused on education loan repayment for students and parents. Coolidge offered tips for students and parents on loan repayment, including selecting a plan appropriate for now (smallest monthly obligation) and one for later (bringing down overall cost of the loan) as circumstances change. Also covered was planning for possible public service loan forgiveness and other loan cancellation opportunities such as teaching and military service, and sorting through options and maximizing credit ratings despite the debt repayment.

### **OP Staff Assembly - In the Works**

- We are currently accepting applications for the 2013-2015 term on the OP Staff Assembly Steering Committee. There are two open seats. Elections will take place June 17-28 with winners announced on July 9 and the first meeting of the new term and election of new officers the following day on July 10.
- A brown bag presented by the California Digital Library has been scheduled for June 19 and will provide an overview of library benefits and resources available to OP employees.
- Our annual Town Hall with President Mark Yudof is scheduled for Tuesday, June 25. With President Yudof stepping down on Aug. 31, this will be his final staff town hall event.