



Campus Update, March 2016

December 2016 - February 2016

Berkeley Lab Staff Association Gaining Momentum

Current CUCSA delegates met with Berkeley Lab Director, Mike Witherell, to discuss the formation of a staff assembly for Berkeley Lab in February. After a presentation on the potential benefits of a staff assembly, and with the experience of his time as VCR at UC Santa Barbara, Director Witherell gave his support for the formation of an assembly. The group will be referred to as the Berkeley Lab Staff Association. Current and former CUCSA delegates are currently working on drafting by-laws, coming up with a plan for launch and promotion of the association, and refresh/consolidation of the association website, with a plan to launch in May of 2017.

Berkeley Lab Network Engineer, Motivated by D&I Workshop, Starts D&I Blog

On January 10th, Berkeley Lab's Scientific Networking Division hosted a workshop entitled "Empathy: A Building Block for Inclusiveness," which focused on a proactive approach of understanding others' needs and relating to their emotions and choices, ideally resulting in improved team spirits and harmony. Michael Sinatra, a network engineer who attended the workshop, felt inspired by the discussion facilitated by a lead trainer from the Love to Share Foundation. In turn, he posted his thoughts on the workshop to the ES Net blog (<https://goo.gl/kYfSH9>). His key message was that by applying the principles of empathy to our colleagues, we can better understand where they're coming from, regardless of differences in communication style or culture.

New Berkeley Lab CHRO Announced

On February 22nd, Berkeley Lab's Chief Operating Officer announced the selection of the Lab's new Chief Human Resources Officer, after a nation-wide search with involvement from key Lab and UCOP leadership. Michelle Scanlon will start at Berkeley Lab in April, and will bring 25+ years of Human Resources experience and leadership from both federally-funded and corporate institutions. Most recently, she was VP for Human Resources and Talent Development at Accela Corporation. She is also a UC Santa Barbara alum! Upon Michelle's arrival, prior CUCSA delegate, Ellen Ford, will return to her role as Senior Advisor to the COO.