



UC Merced Campus Update Spring 2017

New Onboarding Program: Staff Assembly has partnered with the offices of Human Resources and Campus Climate on a new Build Your Network program, which is connected to a soon-to-be revamped New Employee Orientation program. Build Your Network is a six-month program that will meet monthly to cover topics of interest for new employees. The expected launch date is May 2017.

Public Service: Staff Assembly successfully hosted recent events that also contained public service components: the Poppies Galore Community Art Project and Fall Staff Social and Canned Food Drive. The Poppies Galore events in October provided a quick but creative break from work for 89 staff members who glazed poppies for a permanent art display at Bob Hart Square in downtown Merced. During the Fall Staff Social and Canned Food Drive held Nov. 17, staff members donated more than 300 non-perishable food items, with the items going to the UC Merced Food Pantry. In December, the Office of the Chancellor and Staff Assembly hosted a holiday toy drive during which staff donated between 250 and 300 new, unwrapped toys.

Celebrating Service Awards: UC Merced honored 164 employees last December during its Celebrating Service awards ceremony. The annual event pays tribute to staff members who have achieved milestone anniversaries at the campus and system levels. A joint effort by the Office of the Chancellor, Human Resources and Staff Assembly, the morning event included breakfast and a formal awards presentation.

Staff, Faculty Support Giving Tuesday: UC Merced's Giving Tuesday campaign exceeded the campus's fundraising expectations by raising more than \$700,000 in about 24 hours. What was especially noteworthy was the contributions of staff and faculty members. Of the 769 individual donors who participated in the fundraising campaign, 29 percent identified themselves as staff and faculty. Their gifts, combined with matching donated funds, equaled more than \$166,000 — about a quarter of the total gifts collected.

Tapas and Sangria Fundraiser: More than 40 UC Merced employees gathered on campus in February to enjoy tapas and sangria while supporting the UC Merced Staff Assembly Scholarship for Employees' Dependent Children. For a \$15 donation, diners feasted on an array of appetizers and beverages. All food and drinks served at the fundraiser were donated, and eight staff members gave their time to prepare and serve food and drinks, greet attendees and take pictures. All proceeds from the fundraiser were donated to Staff Assembly's scholarship fund, which supports children of staff members who attend UC Merced.

Staff Appointed to Workforce Planning Work Groups: Staff representatives were selected in January for three Workforce Planning Initiative work groups formed by Chancellor Dorothy Leland to recommend a five-year hiring plan for the campus. Staff representatives are Annette Garcia, Alisha Kimble and Paul Garza.

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