



## **Campus Update** September 2013

### **CHANCELLOR DIRKS MEETS STAFF ORGS**

Since beginning his service to UC Berkeley on July 1<sup>st</sup>, Chancellor Dirks—or “Nick,” as he prefers to be called—has been conducting a listening tour with a cross section of campus constituents. Describing staff as the “all-too-often unsung heroes of the university,” he has met with the Berkeley Staff Assembly Governing Council, the Council of Staff Organizations, and the Chancellor’s Staff Advisory Committee, and others, to learn about the staff experience at Berkeley. These questions-and-answer round table sessions have elicited everything from getting-to-know-you information (the family dogs are named Kulfi and Boo Bear), as well as serious conversations regarding staff career development and employee engagement. Nick says he is dedicated to creating a place where staff feel recognized and highly regarded for all that they do.

### **STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK**

June 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> was UC Berkeley’s first ever Staff Appreciation Week. Traditionally held for one day, known as Summerfest, this year campus administrators expanded the program to recognize contributions that UC Berkeley staff have made throughout the year. Each day of the week had a different theme, including “The Value of Saying Thank You,” “Developing and Celebrating Ourselves,” and “Faculty Lectures for Staff.” Residential and Student Service Programs also pitched in to serve campus staff 2,552 free cups of coffee at campus retail locations and 503 discounted meals at participating dining halls.

### **STAFF MENTORSHIP PROGRAM**

The 2013-2014 cycle of the Berkeley Staff Assembly sponsored Mentorship program is having its biggest cycle yet! Fifty-seven mentee-mentor pairs have been matched for a year in which mentee participants can cultivate contacts, explore challenges, and enhance effectiveness as they design their personal growth and career paths at Berkeley.

### **bCONNECTED**

bConnected, Google’s Apps for Education suite of mail, calendar, and document sharing applications, enables all UC Berkeley faculty, staff, and students—for the first time—to share a common collaboration platform. As this Operational Excellence project transitioned into ongoing operations, campus leaders acknowledged the hard work of Information Technology staff in departments across campus. “bConnected is an example of how to break down silos,” said Associate Vice Chancellor – Information Services & Technology and Chief Information Officer Larry Conrad. “We don’t do this by ourselves.”

Campus update contact: Lynn Greene, [lynngreene@berkeley.edu](mailto:lynngreene@berkeley.edu)