



## **Campus Update December 2013**

### **Networking and Philanthropic Series (NPS)**

Staff Assembly made a decision to discontinue our current “Frist Fridays” coffee mixer in response to feedback from polled staff on how to improve Staff Assembly programming. Operating with a desire to pare down social events and increase programmatic events, the NPS series will combine public service activities solicited from staff fused with networking opportunities, while also incorporating a more substantive, and standalone, staff recognition event highlighting staff members who have achieved service milestones (5, 10, 15, etc. years).

### **President Napolitano Visit**

President Napolitano visited UC Merced as the first campus in her listening tour on October 3, 2013. The highlight of the visit from UCM Staff Assembly’s perspective was a one hour unrestricted Q&A forum with the Staff Assembly Executive Board and staff from every department on campus. Questions covered a range of issues including pay increases (and the lack thereof), facility constraints, outdated or overly onerous central policies, and AB 540 students. The visit went very smoothly and President Napolitano was reportedly very pleased.

### **Quarterly Meeting with Chancellor Leland**

The UCM Staff Assembly President, Past President, and Vice President met with Chancellor Leland on September 30, 2013. Topics included salary compression, staff training resources on campus, our experience with the 2020 Project Charets, the (then) upcoming Benefits Town Halls, and the upcoming visit of President Napolitano. We also discussed a new program series (NPS) Staff Assembly would be launching to replace existing programs in conjunction with the Chancellor’s office. The Chancellor was provided with a brief overview of the September 2013 CUCSA meeting. Chancellor Leland was very receptive to our concerns and is committed to working with Staff Assembly to help improve issues relating to staff on our campus.

### **Quarterly Meeting with Assistant Vice Chancellor Dunlap**

The UCM Staff Assembly President, Past President, and Vice President met with AVC Dunlap (CHRO) on October 5, 2013 for our first quarterly meeting. Topics included salary compression and benefits concerns, recruitment and retention concerns, staff training and development opportunities, and the Benefits Town Halls. As mentioned, this was the first in a quarterly meeting series Staff Assembly has had with the AVC and the meeting served as a beneficial starting point to lay out SA’s concerns and establish lines of communication. AVC Dunlap was very receptive to our concerns and appreciates the opportunity for better communication on staff issues moving forward.

### **Vice Chancellor for Business and Administrative Services**

Four candidates for this Executive position have visited campus and Staff Assembly has had the opportunity to hold a one hour interview with each candidate that was open to all staff, led by the Staff Assembly Executive Board. The VC for Business and Administrative Services will report directly to the Chancellor and will lead the Business and Financial Services, Human Resources, Facilities Management, Construction and Design, Campus Police, Environmental Health and Safety, Administrative Operations, and the Early Childhood Education Center. Staff Assembly also has a staff member serving on the search advisory committee.

### **Chief Information Officer Search Advisory Committee**

Two candidates for the CIO position have visited campus and have been interviewed by staff, faculty, and executive leadership. A Staff Assembly representative also participates on this search advisory committee.

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