



BERKELEY STAFF ASSEMBLY

News from the Berkeley Campus

Council of University of California Staff Assemblies

December 2004

Berkeley's New Chancellor

Robert Birgeneau took the helm of the Berkeley campus in September. The Coalition of Ethnic Staff Organizations and Berkeley Staff Assembly co-hosted a welcome reception for the new Chancellor on November 3.

Birgeneau, a physicist and former President of University of Toronto, addressed over 300 staff members at the annual Staff Service Awards luncheon on October 5. Although on the job for only a few weeks, Birgeneau had kind words for the attendees, stressing that staff are the wheels behind the university machine.

Mentorship Program

Berkeley Staff Assembly's Mentorship Program committee has changed to a January-December calendar cycle for 2006. A call for mentor nominations will go out to the campus community to identify staff in the PSS5 or higher classifications. Nominations by third parties are preferred over self-nomination, to give nominees a greater feeling of honor.

The committee is exploring the possibility that represented staff in the AIII classification can participate in the Mentorship Program.

HR meets with BSA

Assistant Vice Chancellor of Human Resources David Moers attended Berkeley Staff Assembly's coordinating committee meeting on November 10 with Beth Luke, Director of Human Resources.

Moers and Luke came to reestablish the connection between Berkeley Staff Assembly and HR and proposed scheduling quarterly meetings with BSA officers. When they asked BSA membership about the current climate for staff, they got a great deal of feedback.

Issues included motivation without hope for raises, staff cutbacks; lack of training on new campus systems, discontinuation of most campus training and career development programs, increased interaction with the chancellor and "power structure," under-recognition of staff and the Governor's compact with the university and how it affects staff.

Holiday Food, Toy and Gift Drive

BSA is co-sponsoring a Holiday Food, Toy and Gift Drive with the Black Staff and Faculty Organization. This year, the program is part of the campus' "Week of Caring," which also includes the charitable giving campaign.

Leveraging off of last year's wildly successful program, the gifts and food collected will benefit children, seniors and disadvantaged families. Local seniors will receive donated gifts; food donations will be given to the Alameda County Food Bank and at what is the most exciting part of the program, over 200 at-risk local children will be treated to lunch, a photo with Santa Claus and a wrapped gift at a party on December 11.

Nationwide Search for BSA's Sponsor

With the departure of Vice Chancellor Horace Mitchell, a nationwide search is on for a new Vice Chancellor, Business and Administrative Services—who also serves as BSA's sponsor. The position is currently being held by Acting Vice Chancellor Steve Lustig, who reports that the search committee, chaired by Acting Vice Chancellor – Budget and Finance William Webster, hopes to complete its work at the end of fall semester.

The arrival of the new Vice Chancellor will coincide with a change in the organizational structure of Business and Administrative Services (BAS). Some units from Budget and Finance will become a part of BAS, and Budget and Finance will be renamed Finance and Administration.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy

Nancy Johnsen Horton
Berkeley Senior Delegate

Terry

Terry Downs
Berkeley Junior Delegate

<http://bsa.berkeley.edu/>