

Campus Update
June 2010

Thank Goodness for Staff Event Held

Over 5,000 attended the 30th Anniversary UC Davis Thank Goodness for Staff (TGFS) event on May 12. TGFS is not just about playing games and having a picnic. TGFS, an event enjoyed by campus staff annually, kicks off with a call for submissions for Citations for Excellence, Staff Scholarships and Staff Dependent Scholarships. The event concludes with the Citation for Excellence ceremony at the Chancellor's Residence. The awards, together with the picnic and activities related to TGFS, are the campus's way of celebrating staff, honoring our contributions and recognizing all of us who work behind the scenes to support the academic and public service mission of the university. Final costs have not been calculated but an event budget of \$83,000 was set with \$65,000 coming from central campus funds and the rest raised from departments and vendor donations. The event included a logo contest, an "Idol" talent competition, and a Guess the Weight competition. Cash and other prizes were given for the various winners. (http://www.dateline.ucdavis.edu/dl_detail.lasso?id=12734)

Citation for Excellence

The campus recognized outstanding staff during the annual Citation for Excellence ceremony, held at the Mondavi Center this year on May 17. Over 60 staff members received recognition in either the individual or team category. The categories of recognition are: Individual General Contribution, Individual Campus Contribution, Individual Campus Service, Supervisor, Team Campus Contribution, Team General Contribution. Chancellor Linda P.B. Katehi gave the award at a ceremony provided by the Chancellor's Residence. The ceremony was relocated to the Mondavi Center because of weather conditions.

Staff and Staff Dependent Scholarships

UC Davis Staff Assembly awarded six scholarships with two going to staff dependents and four to staff. Staff Assembly manages three scholarship funds and partners with the UC Davis Staff Retiree Association to manage a fourth. This year marks the first year we have awarded the Larry N. Vanderhoef scholarship which was established last year as part of outgoing Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef's gift. The combined funding allowed Staff Assembly to award \$5,250 in funds for the education of staff and staff dependents.

Staff Assembly Assigns Members for Campus Leadership Recruitment

UC Davis' Staff Assembly has been asked to participate in four key campus recruitments: University Librarian; Executive Director for the Comprehensive Campaign; Vice Chancellor for Research; and Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor. Staff will serve on these committees to represent the interest of staff in these recruitments. This participation is recognition by the Chancellor and campus leadership about the importance of staff as a constituency organization and their voice is included in obtaining feedback on the future of UC Davis.

UC Davis Staff Assembly Changes By-Laws to Allow for Online Voting

Staff unanimously voted in favor of changing the Staff Assembly by-laws to allow for voting online for any changes to the by-laws during an April event. The event was the UC Provost visit which Staff Assembly utilized as an opportunity for voting. Previously, changes must be voted on during the Spring and Fall Staff Assembly meetings. These meetings have not been held last year because of poor attendance and budget reductions. The email bulletin along with the Staff Assembly web site has served as a more significant forum and feedback mechanism for staff.

UC Davis Summer Activities for Staff

Plans continue to provide opportunities for UC Davis staff to get together after hours to get to know each other in a different venue. For the summer, Staff Assembly has partnered with Six Flags to offer a UC Davis Family Picnic held on June 26th. Tickets are \$35, which includes an all you can eat picnic. A second UC Davis Family Picnic event will be on August 29th in conjunction with a Sacramento River Cats baseball game. The cost is also \$35 with \$5 of the ticket price going towards funding the dependent scholarship program. A lucky staff member can win the chance to throw out the first pitch at the game!

Campus update contact: Tiva Lasiter, tlasiter@ucdavis.edu.