



UCOP Campus Update March 2008

UCOPA Officers

Jennifer Damico resigned as Chair of UCOPA and as CUCSA Junior Delegate. UCOPA elections are scheduled for June. Chris Rivers will be taking over as UCOPA Chair and the group will make a decision to fill Jennifer's CUCSA slot with an alternate or leave the space vacant until the start of the next CUCSA year.

Voluntary Separation Program (VSP)

The VSP was a highly successful initiative. Many UCOP staff signed up for the program with the intention of backing out at a future date if they do not find work elsewhere.

Chronic Stress Research Presentation

Steven Beckwith, the new UC VP of Research, hosted a presentation titled "The Sick Brain" by Tallie Baram, M.D., Ph.D., and Professor of Pediatrics, Neurology, Anatomy, Neurobiology, and the Danette Shepard Chair in Neurological Science at UC Irvine. Dr. Baram described how chronic stress made rats stupid and unproductive. Dr. Beckwith wondered out loud if the Office of the President was a UC experiment.

UCOPA and Strategic Communications

UCOPA has partnered with UC Strategic Communications on restructuring-related communications/events. UCOPA will receive advance copy of restructuring communications that will be posted on the UCOPA website. UCOPA has been invited to help with the meeting logistics for the next UCOP Town Hall scheduled for mid-March and to play a leading role in helping to coordinate staff feedback (e.g., talking to staff after the Town Hall and relaying those comments to Strategic Communications).

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