



## **Campus Update – Office of the President June 2005**

This spring UCOPA hosted five noontime educational programs, and partnered with the local Employee Assistance Program on a sixth program. UCOP sustained sponsorship of five employee interest groups.

In March 2005, at the Kaiser location, the invited speaker was Kristl Buluran (Health\*Matters, University Health Services, UC Berkeley). The presentation described Berkeley's very popular fitness program titled "Step It Up." Participants learned to increase daily exercise including using a pedometer (step-counter) worn throughout the day to provide motivation and feedback on actual activity levels. The workshop included information and on-site participation in strength-building and stretching routines that anyone can do at work including use of a desk and chair. The "Step It Up" program was very popular and returned for encore presentations in both April and May 2005 to capacity crowds in the Franklin and Kaiser locations.

The featured presenter in April 2005 was Professor George Blumenthal, Chair of the Statewide Academic Senate. His presentation highlighted the uniqueness of the University of California Academic Senate among faculty governments. The Statewide Academic Senate provides the organizational framework that enables the faculty to exercise the right to participate in the University's governance as mandated by the Board of Regents. Under that mandate, the faculty is empowered to determine academic policy, set conditions for admission and the granting of degrees, authorize and supervise courses and curricula, and advise the administration on faculty appointments, promotions, and budgets. Through its system of standing committees, the faculty also advises the administration on a broad range of issues including policies regarding research, information technology and telecommunications, library, and health and welfare.

In May, at the Franklin Building, the featured speaker was Brad Barber, Assistant Vice President for Institutional Advancement. His presentation included development (i.e. fundraising), covering gift policy and administration system-wide, the endowment policy (e.g. scholarships, department chairs, etc.), along with fundraising for non-campus and multi-campus projects. Mr. Barber was joined by Director June Smith (Development Policy and Administration) and Senior Counsel Dan Aldrich (Institutional Advancement), plus University Counsel Geoff O'Neill (Office of General Counsel). The presentation attracted a large number of UCOP employees from multiple Oakland locations and from the State Governmental Relations Office in Sacramento.

In addition to sponsored programs, UCOPA partnered with the local UCOP Employee Assistance Program in responding to requests UCOPA received from employees desiring information on self-defense. A presentation by Dr. Alex Feng entitled "Self-Defense Strategies for Women" was arranged for early June. Dr. Feng is a teacher and martial

arts master. In 1973, Dr. Feng, founded the Wu Tao Kuan Martial Arts Institute in Berkeley and in 1992 opened The Taoist Center. In addition, he is a Doctor of Oriental Medicine, practicing traditional Chinese medicine in both California and New York.

In June 2005, UCOPA will sponsor a noontime presentation with refreshments wherein the outgoing Steering Committee will honor two volunteer foreign language teachers and numerous interest group leaders with certificates of appreciation. The certificates will be signed by UCOPA's current Chair and President Dynes and presented by Associate President Linda Williams. In addition to the certificate presentation, the new incoming Steering Committee will be present to meet OP staff and hear suggestions.

### **Interest Group Updates:**

In response to the results of the Summer 2004 web-based staff interest questionnaire, UCOPA sponsored the creation of several interest groups. These interest groups are lead by staff volunteers for the enjoyment and participation of all UCOP staff. For continuing groups, UCOPA provides on-going support; by publicizing them in UCOP-wide periodic "interest group" announcements and having Human Resources include UCOPA information pamphlets with the new employee orientation information. The groups include:

- Conversational Spanish
- Kaiser Book Club
- Golf Group
- Kaiser Knitters and Crocheters Group
- Franklin Crafts Group
- Yoga Group

### **Child Day Care Center for State/UC Employees**

UCOP employees were given an opportunity to participate in a new childcare center located approximately six blocks from the Franklin Building in the State Building at 1515 Clay Street, Oakland. UC employees are given priority consideration for space because they are considered state employees for this purpose, Childcare is provided for children from 8 weeks to 6 years of age. The childcare costs have not been determined because the childcare provider for the center hasn't been selected.

### **CUCSA – Getting the Word Out**

A UCOP wide informational email was sent out by UCOPA in late April for communicating the mission of CUCSA and illustrating the fine work undertaken by this organization for the past 31 years on behalf of all University staff. The email was crafted using the information sheet developed by the CUCSA Policy and Procedures Committee.

Any questions regarding this report or other issues at UCOP can be sent to Debra Richerson, Senior Delegate (Debra.Richerson@ucop.edu) or Kathy Mendonca, Junior Delegate (Kathy.Mendonca@ucop.edu).