



Campus Update – Office of the President September 2005

This summer UCOPA hosted one noontime educational program, sustained sponsorship of six employee interest groups, and completed our election of five new members. We also began working on internal initiatives which will increase UCOPA's ability to effectively function into the future. These initiatives include website reconstruction, an internal reorganization of our subcommittees, and a subcommittee on updating our by-laws.

In July, at the Franklin location, we invited Associate President Linda Williams to present certificates, signed by President Dynes, to our interest group leaders. UCOPA currently sponsors five interest groups including a conversational Spanish group, a book club, a knitting group, a crafts group, and a golf group. This ceremony served to show UCOPA's, and the President's, appreciation of employees who step up to lead programs which serve to build UCOP community.

The initiatives started during the summer will allow UCOPA to increase our effectiveness by reorganizing our subcommittees. We have established subcommittees to review the following issues:

- UCOPA By-Laws
- UCOPA web presence
- UCOPA Interest Groups and Programs

Ongoing Interest Group Updates:

In response to the results from our 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 periodically publicizing their activities in UCOP-wide "interest group" e-mail announcements and by having the UCOP Human Resources Department include UCOPA information pamphlets along with other new employee orientation information.

Conversational Spanish

This group is co-sponsored by UCOPA and the Latino Staff Association (LaSA) and is designed for all Spanish speaking levels. Meetings are conducted informally over brown bag lunches, where cultural information is shared and where fluent and/or Spanish speakers maintain conversational skills, while informally helping others to learn.

Kaiser Book Club

The *Lunchtime Readers Book Club* meets monthly, and books are chosen on a 4-month cycle. The following four books were selected for the June-September time period: The Alchemist by Paulo Coelho, The House of the Scorpion by Nancy Farmer, The Blind Assassin by Margaret Atwood, and The Kite Runner by Khaled Hosseini.

Golf Group

The UCOP Golf Group meets on weekends at designated locations and times, to play golf in a collegial atmosphere with membership spanning all levels of golf expertise, and all levels of staff from the President down. Due to the size of the group, the members benefit by playing at discounted rates.

Kaiser Knitters and Crocheters Group

Experienced and beginning knitters and crocheters meet weekly to work on individual projects in a fun and social environment.

Franklin Crafts Group

Group members meet weekly and participate in all kinds of craft projects, including knitting, crocheting, and scrapbooks in an informal and friendly environment.

Yoga Group

Due to facility limitations and liability issues, UCOPA was not able to directly sponsor a Yoga class; however, UCOPA has located a representative who coordinates a weekly noon-time class, offered at a discounted fee and held close to the Franklin Building. UCOPA advertises the contact information for this representative to the UCOP community on a periodic basis.

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