



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, RIVERSIDE - STAFF ASSEMBLY

Campus Update March 1, 2005

Staff Assembly News:

- ❑ The Service Plus Credit Union, which has provided financial products and services to the UC Riverside community since 1960, has through a new partnership with the UCR Staff Assembly committed to an annual contribution valued at \$1,500. Already, the credit union has donated \$500 for a staff service award, which will be awarded by Credit Plus to a UCR staff member on the basis of outstanding community service. The UCR Staff Assembly is immensely grateful to Service Plus for supporting staff in this way and for partnering with UCR Staff Assembly to further its goals of promoting the interests and well-being of career staff employees. Founded as Riverside Campus Federal Credit Union by just seven UCR employees, the credit union has since grown to over 7,500 members, with more than \$85 million in assets. Service Plus is a full-service, not-for-profit, member-owned financial cooperative.
- ❑ Nine UCR staff members are nearing the completion of “Next Step,” a career development program that provides classroom training, professional development and mentoring opportunities to UCR staff. The program – coordinated by Sue Anderson, corresponding secretary of the UCR Staff Assembly – provides participating staff members with the skills needed to apply for entry-level office positions. It includes career counseling, classroom training in computer and office skills, resume writing and interviewing skills, and mentoring. Participants who complete the program at the end of March 2005 will receive a completion certificate and the Staff Assembly is planning a celebration ceremony for the participants, their supervisors and mentors, and guests. Already, one person enrolled in the program has received a promotional position, due in part to the training received through Next Step. The Staff Assembly partnered with several campus departments last fall to launch the program and hopes to continue the program during the 2005-06 academic year. Additional information on the program can be found at <http://www.staffassembly.ucr.edu/nextstep/index.html>.
- ❑ The UCR Staff Assembly is participating in the planning for campuswide memorial ceremony in remembrance of faculty, staff and students who have passed away. The event is envisioned to become an annual tradition. In addition to this event, the Staff Assembly in the early 1990s established the Staff Memorial Plaza to honor and remember staff members who died while they were still employed at the campus. The landscaped plaza, nestled between the Geology building and Science Laboratories building, is supported in part through the Staff Assembly's memorial brick fund, which enables donors to name bricks in honor of a deceased staff member or other person.





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Campus News

UC Riverside Chancellor Serves on American Council on Education Panel on Higher Education Reform

Chancellor France A. Córdoba was one of 10 members of the National Panel of Presidents and Chancellors contributing to the recently released American Council on Education (ACE) report “An Agenda for Excellence: Creating Flexibility in Tenure-Track Faculty Careers.” The report suggests that rigid tenure-track policies are posing barriers to women and people of color in academia. While women account for 51 percent of new doctorates awarded, they account for just 38 percent of university faculty and 28 percent at research universities, the authors noted. The report was funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. “It is just not acceptable to continue as we have been,” said Chancellor Córdoba during a conference call with the news media. “There are not enough women and minorities in the professoriate. We need to invest in the economy, national security and health of our country by having a representative faculty. We absolutely have to figure things out. The imperative to change is just too great.” As the only leader of a California university on the panel, the Chancellor took the opportunity to describe a University of California study aimed at increasing the number of women and minorities in the academic pipeline by addressing family life issues. The UC study findings are available at <http://ucfamilyedge.berkeley.edu>

State Senator Jackie Speier Visits UCR

Democratic State Senator Jackie Speier visited UC Riverside in January on a listening tour to find out how the state budget cuts over the past five years have affected the teaching and research mission of the campus. Senator Speier met with Chancellor France A. Córdoba, all campus deans, three vice chancellors, faculty leaders and a contingent of UCR students. It was her fourth campus visit, with previous visits to UCLA, UC Irvine and UC San Diego. “The administration and faculty are truly dedicated to the diverse community of students at UCR,” said Sen. Speier. “They are hampered by a funding formula that has not taken into consideration the extraordinary growth that they have absorbed over the last few years.” UC Riverside is one of the campuses that is likely to play an important role as the state’s student population rises, Sen. Speier said. “We have a commitment to the Master Plan that we offer a spot at the UC to all qualified students,” she said. “UC Riverside is one of our great hopes.” Sen. Speier is a member of the State Senate committees on Education, Appropriations, Transportation, Bay Area Transportation and Health Care for all Californians. She is chairwoman of the committees on Insurance and Government Oversight.

