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University of California, Riverside 2006-07 Staff Assembly

WINTER 2007 REPORT FOR CUCSA

Staff Advisors to the Regents Visit

On the heels of the Regents' unanimous approval of a permanent Staff Advisor Program, Staff Advisor Dave Miller and Staff Advisor-Designate Lynda Brewer obliged the Staff Assembly's request to speak at the February general meeting. In representing the more than 160,000 UC staff, Miller and Brewer discussed their roles as Staff Advisors, introduced the Staff Advisor to The Regents website, answered questions, encouraged eligible UC staff and non-Senate academic employees to apply for 2007-08 designate, and subsequently met on an individual basis with key staff, including Chancellor France Cordova and Assistant Vice Chancellor/Dean of Students Susan Allen Ortega. According to Brewer, "We hope to build a relationship with the Regents...[and] offer them a staff perspective on all issues that come before them." Miller echoed, "[Without] the staff...[the] University won't be able to maintain [its] excellence."

Student Regents Spend the Day

Student Regent Maria Ledesma and Student Regent-Designate Benjamin Allen spent the day on campus in early February to both encourage students to apply for Student Regent and to address concerns around local-campus and UC policy. During an open forum, Ledesma and Allen availed a window of opportunity to explain the Governor's Compact regarding fee increases, dialogue on the impact of AB 540 (undocumented students), and announce a 10-year study underway by the Regents to examine the effects of Proposition 209. When students quipped that Student Regents are not held accountable to the students of the University, Ledesma responded by saying, "As a Student Regent, first and foremost, your obligation is to the University. Student Regents do not represent the students. They are Regents who just happen to be students."

Updates on Climate Survey Workgroups

The workgroups (and focus groups), that draw from the 2006 Wonderlic Staff Employee Opinion Survey, have been meeting to discuss issues around three leading areas in the survey: communication, recognition, and career opportunities. As their charge, they have been developing recommendations to enhance the workplace issue they have been assigned (i.e., communication). Their plan is to submit recommendations to the steering committee by the end of March. For updates, please access <http://www.climatesurvey.ucr.edu/>.