



Riverside Campus Update to Council of UC Staff Assemblies June 2010

End-of-the-Year Campus Carnival

Our first annual Campus Carnival was a rousing success, with over 350 attendees. UCR staff, faculty and their immediate families were invited to attend this event. Carnival snacks and games, as well as company picnic style games and entertainment led to a wonderful and fun-filled event. Admittance was free, and was staffed equally by Staff Assembly and student volunteers. A small fee (\$1) was assessed per plate of food, as well as for each activity (including a face paint booth for kids and the campus mobile Rock Wall). Sponsorship from Schools First Credit Union was vital to hold this event. Attendees expressed positive feedback for the event, and a keen interest in seeing it again in the future...and Staff Assembly was approached by the Alumni Office requesting Staff Assembly's help in supporting the Homecoming Tailgate event, modeled after the Carnival. We hope to see increased participation from staff, significantly increased faculty participation, and more family members at next year's event.

Scholarships and Assistance

Over \$10,000 was given out during this Academic Year to support both scholarships promoting professional or personal development, and staff assistance requests. A portion of these funds were given out through the Thanksgiving and Winter Holiday drives, through the purchase and distribution of grocery store gift cards. Scholarship disbursements totaled over \$4,000, out of requests exceeding \$7,500, to support degree attainment as well as personal development workshops and classes. The Staff Assistance program accounted for the balance of funds disbursed. This includes urgent appeals from staff members who are experiencing difficulties due to medical issues, financial stresses, spousal unemployment, etc. Typically Staff Assembly sends requests for funds as needs arise. These allocations were covered by a donation from community leaders who wish to remain anonymous, and supplemented by donations from fellow staff members. Fund allocation processes function currently, but will be improved for efficiency and efficacy of funds disbursed before the 2010-11 disbursement cycle commences.

Outstanding Staff Awards

Staff Assembly partnered with the Office of the Chancellor to honor 8 staff members on campus. Awards are given out in four categories (based on employee classification): Service, Technical, Administrative Support and Professional. Only employees in good standing are eligible to win, and staff can be nominated by anybody (including themselves). Two awards are given out in each category: Staff Who Make a Difference and Outstanding Staff Awards.

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