

# Santa Cruz Update March 1, 2008

# Student Regent Forum – January 30th

Members of the Staff Advisory Board were invited to participate in a Forum with the Student Regents, the Chancellor, Faculty, Graduate Student Union and the Student Union Assembly Executive Board to address student retention issues and the working relationship between students, staff and faculty.

### Chancellor Blumenthal's meeting with Staff Advisory Board

Staff Advisory Board met with Chancellor Blumenthal and Ashish Sahni, Assistant Chancellor/Chief of Staff to discuss topics of concern for staff to address at the Winter Forum. These topics included the budget, UCSC's goals in light of more cuts, UCOP climate & restructuring and Staff Advisor to the Regents nomination & visit in March. SAB expressed appreciation for his support and participation in the December CUCSA meeting. We provided an update on the SRDP award to base building proposal while the Chancellor in turn provided the Board with information from the UC Chancellors' meeting. The Chancellor's participation at the Staff Appreciation BBQ in May was another topic of discussion.

#### Chancellor's Staff Forum – Winter Quarter

The budget and the university pension plan were at the top of Chancellor's Blumenthal's remarks -- and foremost on staff members' minds – at the noontime Winter Staff Forum, February 10<sup>th</sup>. Staff asked questions on topics including shared governance of the pension plan, changes to the Arts & Lectures program, approaches to budget cuts, union negotiations and how the state budget situation will affect campus construction.

### SAB Partnering with UCSC Retirees Association

Staff Advisory Board is partnering with the UCSC Retirees Association to work in areas of mutual interest such as the governance of the retirement plan.

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