

CAMPUS UPDATE

December, 2009

The Chancellor's 5K Run/Walk

Everyone agrees: It was a spectacular day for a 5K. The gloomy financial climate only helped bolster spirits at the 14th annual Chancellor's Challenge 5K Run/Walk for Scholars on Friday, reminding the runners and donors that their contributions couldn't come at a more crucial time for the university.

In a brief pep talk Chancellor Marye Anne Fox didn't wait a moment to address the race's special relevance this year, saying it is of extra importance because of the recession.

"By participating, you are helping UC San Diego students succeed, so thank you," Chancellor Fox told the nearly 1,500 students, faculty, alumni, staff and friends who participated. The event raised a total of \$204,354 for student scholarships.

Service Awards Ceremony

The 42nd Annual Service Awards Ceremony was held on Thursday, October 8, 2009, in the Price Center West Ballroom. This year, the campus celebrated 548 staff members who have achieved 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service during the period from September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2009.

The ceremony included presentations of awards and certificates of appreciation to 133 employees with 25, 30, 35 and 40 years of service. Employees with 10, 15 and 20 years of service were recognized from the platform and received certificates of appreciation.

This was a wonderful opportunity to honor the contributions of these staff members, and supervisors were asked to encourage awardees to attend the ceremony.

A Taste of Diversity

The 4th Annual Diversity Luncheon was held on November 5, 2009 and attended by 150 staff members and students. This is a joint undertaking of the Pan-Asian Staff Association, the Chicano/Latino Staff Association and the Black Staff Association aimed at bringing together staff from various groups to celebrate diversity and foster unity. Funds generated from tickets sales were spent on the various foods served during the event. The Office of the Chancellor assisted by paying for the use of the International Center and other supplies. Staff Advisor to the Regents, Dr. Ed Abeyta, was Guest of Honor during the event.

Visit of the UC Commission on the Future

On Friday, November 6, 2009, representatives from a touring task force comprised of representatives from across the UC system were on campus to find out what the UCSD community had to say.

At the heart of the frustrations voiced by an audience made up of faculty, staff, administrators and students: how to protect the quality and affordability of a UC education in the face of unprecedented budget constraints.

On the panel were George Blumenthal, chancellor of UC Santa Cruz, Cynthia Brown, a professor of French at UC Santa Barbara, Mary Croughan, a professor of medicine at UC San Francisco, Keith Williams, a neurobiology lecturer at UC Davis, Peter Taylor, the executive vice president and chief financial officer for the University of California system, Jesse Bernal, a student regent who is a doctoral candidate in education at UC Santa Barbara.

These panelists are touring all the UC schools to explain their ideas and hear responses from each of the 10 campuses.

Three Staff Association Members presented suggestions to the Commission. Patrick Weiss, chair of the Medical Center Diversity Association, Alonso N. Noble, Chair-elect of the UCSD Staff Association and Anna Gandolfi, former Chair and current Secretary of the UCSD Staff Association.

Visit of UC Academic Senate Chair

Dr. Henry “Harry” Powell, UC Academic Senate Chair spent an hour with the Executive Board of the UCSD Staff Association in its monthly meeting in November. Dr. Powell talked on a range of topics foremost of which is the current fiscal challenge facing the University of California. He looks forward to his return to the San Diego Campus when he can work more closely with the local staff.

Upcoming Staff Association Outreach

- The Annual Pancake Breakfast and Toy Drive is scheduled for December 16th. This event that is put on by the Staff Association and funded by ticket sales is an occasion where staff can celebrate the Holiday Season with family, friends and co-workers. Hot pancakes, sausages and beverages are served by the Chancellor and other distinguished administrators. The toy drive brings in hundreds of toys which are personally distributed by Santa and his reindeer to UCSD Medical Center infant Special Care Center and the UCSD Burn Center. In addition, toys are distributed to the UCSD Mother, child and Adolescent program, Kaiser Hospital Pediatrics, National City Boys and Girls Clubs, and other UCSD affiliated groups.
- The 3rd Annual Celebrate the Night is scheduled for December 7th. This annual event is to honor and appreciate the nighttime staff and runs from 10:30 pm to 1:00 am. Nearly 300 invitations are sent out and as many are expected to attend. There is no charge to attend as it is fully funded by the Vice Chancellor of Resource Management and Planning.

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