



BERKELEY STAFF ASSEMBLY

Campus Update December 2009

Voices at the Table

On October 28, members of the Berkeley Staff Assembly (BSA) gathered to hear from their “Voices at the Table,” namely, Paul Riofski and Steve Garber, Berkeley’s Senior and Junior CUCSA delegates, and Juliann Martinez, a BSA member now serving as the Staff Advisor Designate to the Regents. We described some of CUCSA’s successful initiatives and what we plan to work on this coming year. Juliann explained her role, recent accomplishments of the Advisors and her vision for the future of the role. She explained that she and Ed Abeyta are trying to become increasingly proactive and have established regular meetings with President Yudof and the senior management at UCOP. She encouraged staff to contact them with questions and suggestions.

Operational Excellence Project

UCB formally launched an effort led by the Chancellor that will build upon and expand work already underway to reduce costs and streamline operations. Along with the consulting firm Bain & Company, UCB will be conducting a comprehensive study of our costs and developing concrete options that improve operations while reducing our costs. Following the assessment phase, we will determine whether and how to proceed with implementation of the most viable options. We are calling this exercise Operational Excellence (OE) to reflect our commitment to an administration that is as effective and as excellent as we are in teaching and research. The cost of the project will be \$3 million but the goal is that the project will save UCB tens of millions of dollars each year. More information on the project can be found at <http://berkeley.edu/oe/>.

Parking Permit Changes

In light of the current furloughs and salary reductions, Parking & Transportation is rolling back all annual parking permit rates by roughly 8% from the current 2009-10 rates. The reduction became effective September 1, 2009.

BSA Mission Statement Update

BSA has been working on a new mission statement for a couple of years. We recently finalized the statement and will be sending it out to the membership for discussion and approval. The draft statement is the following: The Berkeley Staff Assembly creates community, champions staff interests, and provides opportunities for networking and development.

Post-Employment Benefits Forum

On November, 13 UCB hosted our forum on The Future of UC Retirement Benefits. Our own Paul Riofski facilitated the forum, which was held in an auditorium that has a capacity of 250. However, the seats were filled before the program began and there were over 100 people sitting or standing in the aisles and about another 200 people standing in the lobbies trying to listen in. The staff were very engaged in the discussion and there were a lot of strong feelings about the potential outcomes of the task force.

Green Opportunities

Many projects are underway on campus in the area of energy efficiency. These include a refrigerator replacement program and a green computing website: <http://greencomputing.berkeley.edu>. The site will communicate about energy-saving ideas, recommendations, and projects happening throughout the campus community.

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