

Campus Update
May 2009

Thank Goodness for Staff (TGFS) Picnic

Our Annual TGFS Picnic was held on Wednesday, May 13th, and was a huge success. We sold 5062 tickets, which was a record number. The new central campus location seemed to work out well for everyone, as transportation has been an issue in the past. We received \$60K in core funding, and departments and deans purchased tickets for their staff at \$2.00 each and for their student employees at \$9.50 each. We also had several sports for staff to participate in, including a fun run/walk, volleyball, golf, tennis, and bowling. We had a great volunteer turnout, with over 130 senior administrators volunteering to serve food and beverages to staff, and over 100 staff volunteers. Twenty-three campus and non-campus vendors participated at the event, and we gave away over 50 raffle prizes, including a motor scooter, Raging Waters Tickets, and many other gifts contributed by our vendors and local businesses. This was the first year we charged for vendor tables at the Picnic. Although we did not raise the \$4000 in vendor contributions that we anticipated, we did raise funding through the sales of raffle tickets, Gunrock Bingo Squares, and merchandise. The food was great, the weather was beautiful, and there were smiles everywhere. Staff participated in a logo contest to pick the winning staff-created logo for next year's picnic, Guess the Weight contest, TGFS Idol, and onsite volleyball games. Website: <http://staff.ucdavis.edu/tgfs>

Staff Assembly Continues to Review Furlough Survey Comments

Staff Assembly has received nearly 1400 responses with many comments and suggestions as a result of the Furlough Potential Survey. The large volume of diverse comments reflects the variety of opinions and view points staff have on this particular issue. Staff Assembly is sorting through the comments as well as the actual survey responses to provide a summarized version for staff. While only a small field for comments was provided, the volume of responses generated a document that is over 100 pages long. We appreciate the importance of this issue and are in communication with the campus administration to ensure these comments reach them in a timely fashion. We are thankful that so many staff participated, as it helps Staff Assembly communicate a more broad perspective from staff.

Citations for Excellence Awarded

On Monday, May 18th, the UC Davis Staff Assembly recognized 170 staff employees and employee teams who have shown outstanding achievement in general contributions, campus service, and/or supervision through the Citations for Excellence Program. Individuals and teams awarded the Citations for Excellence were recognized at TGFS and at a special ceremony at the Chancellor's Residence. This year we had a new aspect of the program where we chose one outstanding individual and team for each category to receive the honor of *Distinguished* Citation for Excellence, and their names and team names will be engraved on perpetual plaques for each category at the Alumni Center, next to other excellence awards for faculty, students, and alumni. Website: <http://staff.ucdavis.edu/awards/citation-for-excellence>

Staff and Staff Dependent Scholarships Awarded

Staff Assembly has chosen four recipients for each of our two scholarship programs: Staff and Staff Dependents. We had over 35 applications this year for both programs combined, which is a significant increase from last year. We hope to continue to receive more applications each year, as we will soon start designating winners of the Larry N. Vanderhoef Staff Scholarship Award from our applicant pool. Staff Scholarships are funded by an endowment created in 1981 as a memorial for Margene Orzalli. Staff recipients are able to attend any higher education institution or program as long as they remain career staff during the award period. The Staff Dependent Scholarship, in its third year, awards scholarships to staff dependents to attend UC Davis and are funded through fund raising efforts. We have a program where local businesses become scholarship partners and donate directly to the Staff Dependent Scholarship fund, and our profits from the sale of Staff Pins also support the program. The monetary amount for each scholarship is being determined by our board, and we are hoping to award at least \$500 per recipient. Staff Assembly believes this program emphasizes the importance of educating staff and their dependents, given that we work in an educational institution. Website: <http://staff.ucdavis.edu/staff-incentives-1/scholarships>

Chancellor-designee Selected

Staff Assembly Chair Peter Blando participated in the recruitment for UC Davis' next Chancellor, resulting in the selection of Linda Katehi as our Chancellor-designee. Linda Katehi is provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and professor of electrical and computer engineering. She holds a joint appointment with the Gender and Women Studies Program. In her current role, Katehi is the chief academic and budgetary officer for the campus with more than \$400 million in research expenditures. She oversees all academic and financial programs, policies and priorities that have been designed to ensure a memorable educational experience for students and sustain an environment that encourages and supports academic excellence. At a recent address to our campus, Katehi said, "I am proud to be a part of a place that understands that this is a campus living within a community, and that the well-being of the community is a prerequisite to the success of this institution." [Click here to learn about our next Chancellor.](#)

Campus Participates in National RecycleMania Competition

UC Davis R4 Recycling Program turned RecycleMania into a campuswide project. RecycleMania is a national competition, which ran Feb. 1 through March 28. Almost 500 colleges signed up, competing to see which ones are the best at recycling. In years past, the Davis campus participated in RecycleMania in a limited way—by measuring the recycling efforts at a few residence halls. This year the campus went all in. To do this, the recycling team asked for help. They recruited individuals from as many campus departments as possible to be RecycleMania volunteers and urge faculty, staff and students to recycle, rebuy, reduce and reuse. The R4 team produced electronic flyers to be sent via email by the volunteers in each building. Although Davis' campus came in 163 out of 209, this is largely due to the amount of research waste that isn't part of the equation on small non-research campuses. The Staff Sustainability Workgroup, led by Lin King, is working on increasing sustainable practices across campus. Website: <http://r4.ucdavis.edu/>

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