



University of California, Riverside

Staff Assembly

Campus CUCSA Update for June - September 2008*

Highlight: Stepping Up UCR Staff Careers. UCR's [Next Step program](#) congratulated its fourth year of successful graduates on July 31, 2008. Next Step is a free, six-month program designed to give staff an opportunity to gain entry-level office skills for positions in administrative and academic departments. The program teaches business, computer and personal development skills in 30 class sessions, complete with homework assignments, mock interviews, mentorships and internships. Staff Assembly created the Next Step Program in 2003 and partnered with many campus departments such as Vice Chancellor of Administration, Housing Services, Human Resources, Physical Plant, University Extension, Advancement, Office of Research and the Storehouse to help participants. There were 13 graduates this year and from that group four were selected as interns who will spend 30 days in real, on-campus administrative positions to give them on-the-job experience and hands-on training necessary for their career development

Other News:

- 1) **UCR's Ohana Celebration.** On June 18th the Staff Assembly hosted the final staff social gathering of the year: a lunch time BBQ with a luau theme. More than 800 delicious meals were served by our outstanding dining staff while special entertainment was provided by other talented staff. The event was one of the biggest SA successes in recent memory.
- 2) **Honoring Outstanding Staff.** Since 1986, the UCR SA has been honoring outstanding staff and on June 23, 2008, hosted the annual Outstanding Staff and Staff Who Make a Difference Awards ceremony. Twenty career staff members had been nominated by their peers and supervisors and each received a certificate signed by the Chancellor. Of that group eight were further honored by receiving plaques, as best of the best. And although there had been a flood on campus that shut down several major buildings that day over 80 people attended the awards ceremony.
- 3) **UCR School of Medicine to Open In 2012.** On July 17, 2008, UC Regents approved UCR's plan to open a four year school of medicine which will research, teach and provide service programs to improve the health of Californians, with special attention to the needs of the diverse and growing Inland Southern California region. The medical school will also provide a pipeline for diversifying the physician workforce; facilitate partnerships with community clinics and hospitals; increase the potential of attracting start-up companies and venture capital to Inland Southern California and help transform Inland Southern California toward a knowledge-driven economy. The first incoming class of 50 medical students is projected to enroll in the UCR School of Medicine in fall 2012. Concurrently, the medical school will launch residency programs to offer the required training for postgraduate medical students to achieve board certification and medical licensure. Enrollment will ramp up gradually to a total of 400 medical students, 160 residents and 160 graduate students. There will be many new career opportunities for staff with the SOM.
- 4) **Farewell to Interim Chancellor Grey.** Robert Grey, a former Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor at UC Davis, served with distinction as UCR acting chancellor from June 26, 2007 until July 18, 2008. While previous Chancellor France Cordova initiated the arduous and complex effort to establish a School of Medicine at UCR, it was Dr. Grey who led the crucial final effort to gain the Regents' blessing. Dr. Grey's vision for a better UCR, sensible leadership, commitment to progress and respect for everyone endeared him to UCR staff and constituents.
- 5) **UCR Welcomes 8th Chancellor.** UCR staff were delighted to have Chancellor Timothy White and his wife, Dr. Karen White, officially become UCR's first family on July 18, 2008, along with their four-year-old son, Logan. Dr. White is UCR's 8th Chancellor and appeared with Dr. Grey before the Regents when they approved UCR's new School of Medicine.

*These briefs were adapted from various campus communications. Campus Update Contact: Jocelyn Whitfield, SA Vice President/President-Elect CUCSA Junior Delegate Jocelyn.whitfield@ucr.edu