

**Council of UC Staff Assemblies (CUCSA)
Quarterly Meeting at University of California, Santa Barbara
Meeting Minutes
December 4 & 5, 2003**

PRESS RELEASE

The Council of UC Staff Assemblies (CUCSA) held its second quarterly meeting of the 2003-2004 academic year on the campus of UC Santa Barbara, December 4 and 5, 2003. The Council is an advisory body made up of staff delegates from each of the ten campuses, three national laboratories, and the Office of the President. CUCSA meets on a quarterly basis, rotating between campuses and the laboratories to discuss issues of importance to staff and to provide feedback to the Office of the President on these issues.

Chair David Bell called the Council of UC Staff Assemblies (CUCSA) meeting to order at the UC Santa Barbara campus at the Interdisciplinary Humanities Center, McCune Conference Room. Leslie Campbell and George Hopwood gave host instructions. David Bell welcomed the new delegates, reviewed the agenda, and made a few announcements.

Chair David Bell and Vice-Chair Dave Miller reported on the November Regents meeting. Their focus at the Regents meetings has been on building positive relationships. We now have some strong supporters of staff in the Regents meetings.

UC Santa Barbara Chancellor Henry T. Yang welcomed the CUCSA delegates. He introduced his wife, Delia Yang, who attends many UCSB events with the Chancellor. Chancellor Yang made a presentation on UCSB's history and achievements as a dream come true that would not be possible without staff. Any committee formed at UCSB includes staff. With the budget cuts, a Budget Management Committee was formed. UCSB is trying not to layoff anyone by using attrition and the volunteer START program. A committee was created to review parking issues after Chancellor Yang received many e-mail messages from staff frustrated from extra fees and not being able to make ends meet. A question and answer period followed.

Ed Abeyta, CUCSA Webmaster, spoke with the delegates about the CUCSA Web page and how it sets a platform for communication. It is important to document the past, have access to current information and build a future. Ed wants to work with us and for us to develop the content and look we want. He wants to use technology to its best capabilities. The delegates had an opportunity to give Ed feedback on the Web site. Then, the Web and Communication standing committee met with Ed. The CUCSA Web site is <http://www.ucop.edu/cucsa>

Working lunch and discussion with UCSB Staff Assembly and the UCSB Chancellor's Staff Advisory Council (CSAC).

Wendy Nishikawa, UCSB Work-Life Coordinator, Office of Human Resources, gave a presentation on UCSB Work/Life. The office was established in October 2001. Wendy spoke about a 2002 Web-based survey of UCSB faculty and staff about the programs under Work/Life including childcare, elder/dependent care, flexible work arrangements, family-friendly policies and benefits, professional development, spousal employment, and health & wellness. A question and answer period followed. The Work/Life Web site is <http://hr.ucsb.edu/Worklife/index.htm>

Dr. Laurence Seigler, Alumni Regent and President of the Alumni Association, started by thanking us for having him as a guest. He gave us some background on himself and the Alumni Association. He had a question for us – Why do we want our children and family to go to UC? CUCSA delegates dialoged with Dr. Seigler for the balance of his visit. Dr. Seigler ended by saying that staff bring such a devotion to UC. Our love shows.

CUCSA business included approval of September minutes and discussion of work groups and standing committees.

December 5 session was held at UCSB University Center – Flying “A” Meeting Room.

Chancellor Yang introduced President Robert C. Dynes as a person who shows deep concern and passion for staff.

President Robert C. Dynes came to share his thoughts and to listen to us. President Dynes talked about California's current budget situation. President Dynes has seen in his travels that the University of California impacts everyone in California from the food we eat to our medical care. Staff is the heart and soul of UC. Our dialog with President Dynes was productive and informative for all in attendance. If we see changes needed at UC, send President Dynes a message from the Web at: <http://universityofcalifornia.edu/president/desk.html>

Stan Kowalski, Director, Constituent and Legislative Coordinator, UC Office of the President, presented a legislative update including bills with significant impact on UC. Proposed legislation was also presented. He will share with us the Web site URL where we can look at all legislation.

Student Regent Designate Jodi Anderson, who also is a UC staff member, talked with us about the process for selecting the Student Regent. Regent Anderson shared some of her concerns including budget issues, outreach, quality of UC life, and the value of staff. Our dialog with Regent Anderson was very enlightening for us all.

Ellie Schindelman, UCOP People Management Initiative (PMI) Project, spoke with us about the progress she has made over the last two years on the system-wide PMI Project and asked for our feedback. Our dialog included program costs, talent management, networking, mentoring, and Web-based information for access to all UC communities. Ellie will send us her final report and proposal for a pilot program.

The next quarterly CUCSA meeting will be held at UC Office of the President from March 3-5, 2004.