Staff Council Meeting Summary

October 9, 2012

- Celebration of the Arts & Artists in the New Creekside Garden today at 3:30pm followed by Continuing Education Open House from 4pm – 6pm at Colusa Hall.
- “An Evening to Treasure”, Gateway Museum fundraiser Saturday October 20th from 6-8pm at the Elk Lodge.
- The next Koffee & Kudo’s is being sponsored by President Zingg and Provost Wei, October 31st from 10am – 2pm at the Warren’s Center. The theme is masquerade ball.
- There is a new Relocation Policy from HR. Watch for more information on the new policy in the Policies section of the HR Forms page.
- The biggest impact to current employees from the new pension reforms is that after 12/31/12, the option to buy service credits will no longer be available and retired staff will have to wait 180 days before they can be hired as a retired annuitant. For more information on the changes coming with the pension reform check out the CalPERS page.
- CalPERS has a calculator on their site to estimate the cost of buying service credits. If you are interested in doing this, be sure to have your application in by 12/31/12 to be considered. The option will no longer be available as of 1/1/13.
- The new 180 day rule for retired annuitants may have a big effect on instructors under the lecture status.
- The new Absence Management Self Service has been getting some good feedback and HRIS has been able to troubleshoot some problems already. They are working on some new reports for both users and themselves to help with the new process.
- A new Staff Action Form will be ready for pilot users in the next couple of weeks. HRIS is hoping to test with them through the beginning of November and then have the new form live in the beginning of December. They would like to have all of campus using it beginning in January.
- Due to some controversy over the name, the AS sponsored Meatless Mondays will be getting a new name. The program is intended to offer more vegetarian options for those that are interested.
- The AS is having a voter registration drive to get more students (and staff and faculty) involved in the voting process. Debra Bowen, California Secretary of State will be speaking on campus on Monday October 22 in Trinity Commons.
- Jay will be traveling to California Maritime Academy this weekend for the California State Student Association (CSSA) October Meeting.
- Jay and other AS officers will be available for questions during “Juice with Jay” each Wednesday from 10-11am. During good weather they will be outside the BMU and in the BMU atrium during rainy weather.
- The AS is working with the University and City to promote a safer Labor Day Holiday.
The AS will present a resolution to President Zingg soon with questions and feedback on the Chico Compact for Student Success and the fee involved. The students want to be sure they are getting the most out of it.

Academic Senate (SEN) will meet this Thursday in KNDL 207/209 from 1-5pm. They will be looking at 4 action items to discontinue the following programs: Africa Area of Concentration (BA SOSC), Paralegal Area of Concentration (BA SOSC), Social Science Education Option in the MA in Social Science, and the Option in Animal Science (now a major). They will also be looking at 2 action items to change the name of the BA & Minor in Religious Studies to Comparative Religion.

The Senate has also been asked to look at the policy on nepotism for possible revisions.

Tickets for the University’s Needy Children Program Opportunity Drawing were handed out at the meeting. If you didn’t get yours contact Jennifer Lara.

o  Tickets are due back to Jennifer Friday November 2nd by noon. If you need more tickets just let Jennifer know.

See’s candy bars have been ordered and will be available at the next meeting.

Nathan is working with the University Farm to sell poinsettias this holiday season.

Reminder – 3 unexcused absences from Staff Council meetings (including committee meetings) is seen as a resignation from the Council.

There is still vacancies on the Student Grievance Committee.

o  Thank you to Annette Heilesen for offering to serve. And to Cari Phipps for offering to serve on the Campus Planning Committee.

If you know a staff member (can be outside Staff Council) that is interested in serving on the Student Grievance Committee, please contact Chris Gardner.

Provost Wei came to speak with the Council as part of her Project Pulse. She wanted to hear what we liked and disliked about campus and what ideas we had to make it better. Lots of good feedback was given and Provost Wei thanked everyone for their participation.