

ANR STAFF ASSEMBLY CURRENT, Vol. 1, No. 5

Dec. 13, 2022

Staff Assembly Current e-news: Education reimbursement makes an impact, UC staff midyear check-in

This is your monthly Staff Assembly e-newsletter, distributed on the second Tuesday of each month (read archived [past issues](#)). As staff members at UC Agriculture and Natural Resources, you are ALL part of [UC ANR Staff Assembly](#). We on the [Staff Assembly Council](#) help advise senior leadership and advocate on your behalf, and we also organize programs and events that promote your professional development and personal growth. (Note: Academics are members of our counterpart entity, Academic Assembly.)

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM ALL OF US ON STAFF ASSEMBLY COUNCIL!

Education reimbursement program makes ‘significant impact’ for UC ANR staff – and can for you, too

For our colleague Christine Davidson, the [education reimbursement program](#) – administered by [UC ANR Staff Assembly](#) – was a major factor in empowering her to pursue graduate school.

“The reimbursement program helped my decision when I was considering going back to school,” said Davidson, an EFNEP (Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program) program supervisor in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. “The financial support made a significant impact.”

Through the program, which provides financial assistance for career and professional training and development, Davidson received a total of \$1,500 over the course of several cycles. She applied the funds toward completing a master’s degree, which she said was “essential to move to the next level” in her career.

All ANR career staff employees (represented and non-represented) who have completed the probationary period are eligible to apply for funds from the education reimbursement program, as well as all UCCE County paid staff employees in good standing.

Davidson called the application process “very simple” – entailing gathering a few documents from her school records and collecting signatures. “It took maybe 30 minutes to put everything together,” she explained.

To UC ANR colleagues thinking about applying for education reimbursement, Davidson wholeheartedly urges them to take the step.

“I highly recommend the program for those seeking to further their education, whether it’s to pursue a degree or take one course to learn a new skill,” Davidson said.

The next reimbursement cycle runs through April 15, 2023 (applications must be submitted by close of business on that date). For full details on eligibility, requirements and instructions to apply, visit: https://staffassembly.ucanr.edu/Subcommittees/Education_Reimbursement/

If you have questions, please contact Education Reimbursement Chair Rosa Vargas at rivargas@ucanr.edu.

You're invited: Midyear check-in with University of California staff

Staff across the UC are invited to join an online “midyear check-in” with UC Administrative Management Professionals (UC AMP), the Staff Advisor to the Regents and the Council of UC Staff Assemblies (CUCSA) – of which UC ANR Staff Assembly is a part.

On Jan. 11, 2023 at 12:05 p.m., leaders from each organization will share work, priorities and opportunities to engage this year. The conversation will feature:

- * Michael Austin, Chair of UC AMP
- * Priya Lakireddy, UC Staff Advisor to the Regents
- * Dennis McIver, Chair of CUCSA

There will also be a short Q&A session. Participants can register for the virtual session at:

<https://bit.ly/ucstaffjan22>.

Meet and Greet in Davis introduces staff to Staff Assembly programs

On Dec. 8, UC ANR employees at the Second Street building in Davis had the opportunity to chat with locally based Staff Assembly Council members during a “Meet and Greet” event in the break room.

SAC members shared with their colleagues the mission and role of [UC ANR Staff Assembly](#), and described the opportunities they offer to enhance the experience of employees across the state, including the education reimbursement program, wellness program and other initiatives.

In addition to giveaways like water bottles, mugs, T-shirts and tote bags, staff came away from the event with a new (or renewed) understanding of Staff Assembly’s purpose.

“It was nice to hear about the programs and opportunities available through Staff Assembly,” said Emma Tribble, a recently hired UC IPM writer/editor who attended the Meet and Greet. “I’ll definitely be keeping an eye out for future events! I hope that other staff members are learning about Staff Assembly and taking advantage of what it has to offer.”

To learn more about Staff Assembly, reach out to any member of the [Council](#) or contact your local [Staff Assembly Ambassador](#). If your office or location currently does not have an Ambassador, consider volunteering to serve! Contact Shirley Salado (scsalado@ucanr.edu) or Vanity Campbell (vcampbell@ucanr.edu).

Submissions for future issues of Staff Assembly Current

We invite you to submit brief notices (150 words or less), directly related to Staff Assembly-led topics and programs, for inclusion in future issues of the Current. It will go out every month on the second Tuesday. Deadline for submissions is the last day of the previous month. Please ensure your item is relevant to all (or nearly all) UC ANR staff.

Email your submissions to Mike Hsu, SAC communications chair, at mjhsu@ucanr.edu. Thank you!