#### **Town Hall**

2-3 pm, October 18, 2025

- Welcome
- Leadership Update
- ANR@Work Survey Results
- UC ANR Innovate
- In the news
- New Hires
- Other Updates

## Chat warmup Learning about each other:

What is your favorite type of candy?



#### Leadership Update

Vision & News - (10-15 mins)













## 2024 ANR@Work Survey

Tina Jordan
Interim Academic Personnel Director



#### 2024 ANR@Work Survey Results

The ANR@Work Survey is an opportunity for all academics and staff to provide feedback about their experience working at UC ANR.

The last survey was launched in October 2024.

#### As a brief overview:

- Survey results were presented to Executive Leadership and Programmatic & Administrative Unit Directors in April and June of this year.
- Results of the survey feedback informed the development of the UC ANR Employee Focus Groups that were facilitated by Dr. Angela Song-Ruiter, UC San Diego Strategic Consulting Sr. Director.
- In addition, many of the strategic goals are directly connected to the survey findings.
- The 2024 survey reports will be available on the ANR Human Resources Website
- The next ANR@Work Survey is anticipated to launch in April 2026.

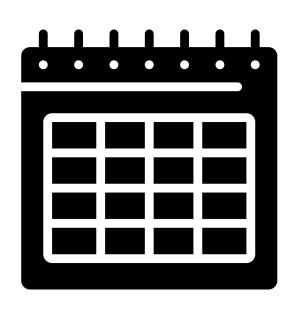
I am excited to introduce Iuliia Kepley from Strategic Consulting, Human Resources, UC San Diego. She will now present on the 2024 survey findings.



## UC Agriculture and Natural Resources Staff Experience Survey 2024

Presented by Angela Song-Ruiter, PhD
Analyses conducted by Iuliia Kepley, MS
Strategic Consulting, Assessments, and Analytics (SCAA), UCSD

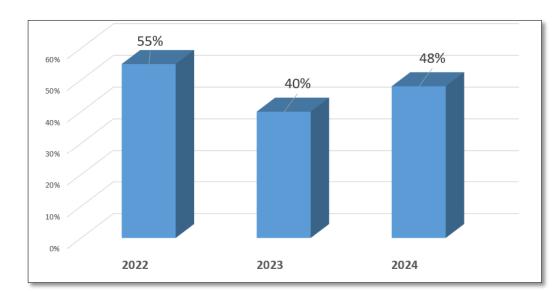
## 2024 Staff@Work **Survey Logistics**



Distributed
Oct 23 – Dec 6, 2024

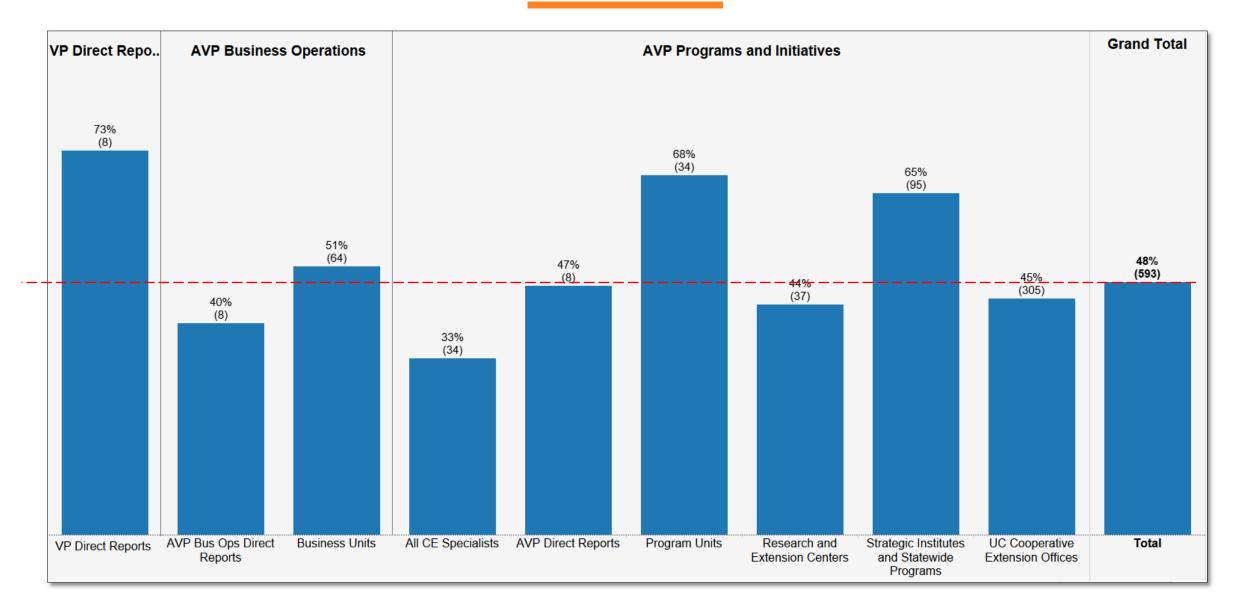
# 593 respondents

48% response rate



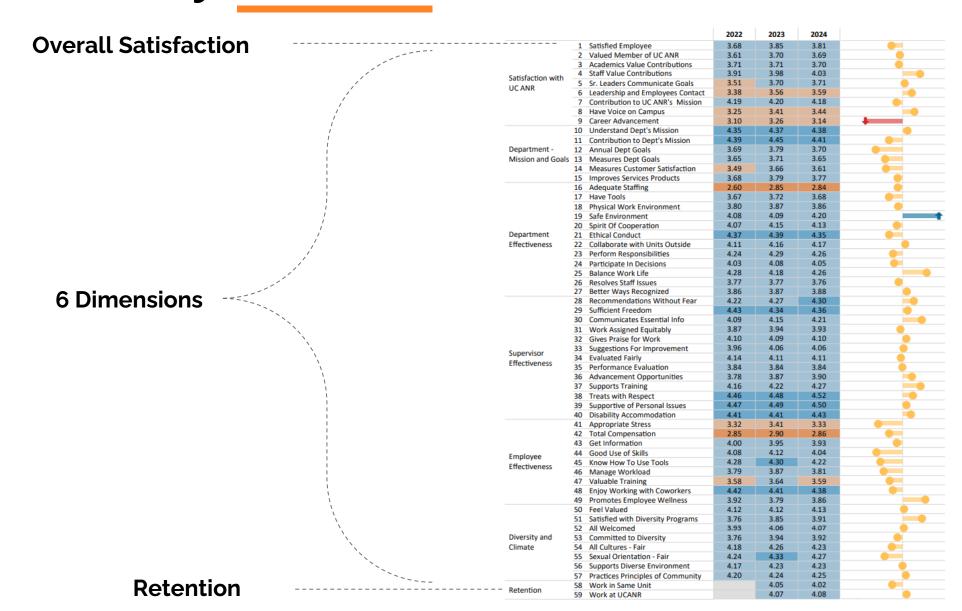
The response rate increased compared to 2023

# 2024 Staff@Work 2024 Responses – Units

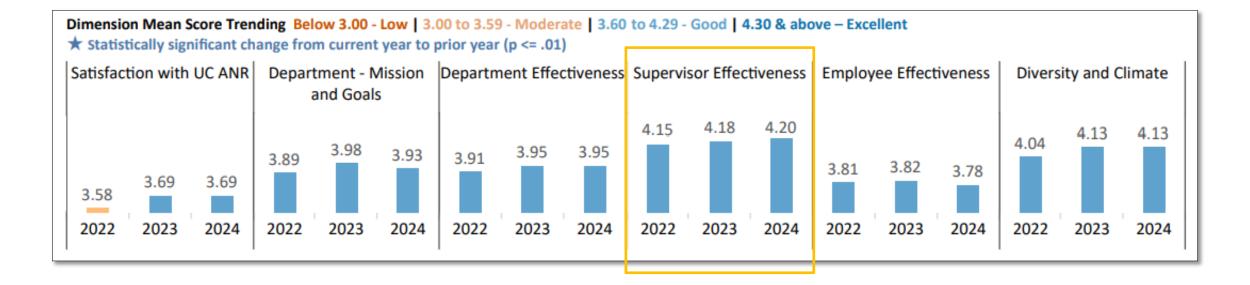


## 2024 Staff@Work About the Survey

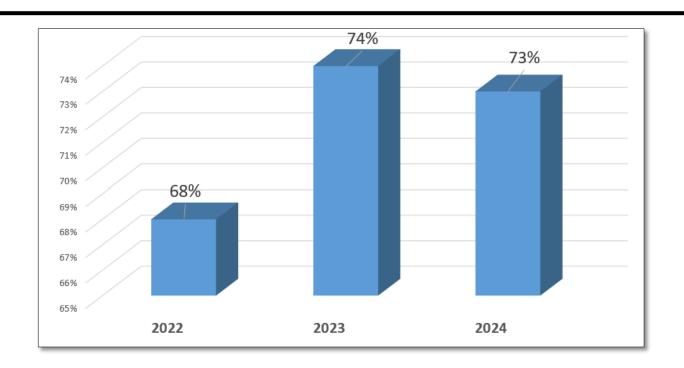
57 standard rated questions: 1 to 5 Likert scale (Strongly disagree to Strongly agree) 17 Conduct and Behavioral Items: 1 to 5 Frequency scale (Never to Very Often)



#### Satisfaction Trends by Dimension



"Satisfaction with UC ANR" has remained consistent with 2023 results, and the "Supervisor Effectiveness" dimension has the highest satisfaction rate among the other dimensions (4.20).



73%

of employees were "satisfied" or "extremely satisfied" – **Remaining high and consistent** compared to the 2023 survey

#### "Overall, I am a satisfied employee" by Unit

		2022	2023	2024
VP Direct Reports N=8	VP Direct Reports		4.60	4.88

 VP Direct Reports division shows improvement compared to 2023 for 'Overall, I am a satisfied employee' (4.88, Excellent range).

2	A I	2022	2023	2024
AVP Business Operations	AVP Bus Ops Direct Reports		4.09	
	Business Units	3.87	4.19	3.88
N=72	Total	3.87	4.18	3.93

- AVP Business Operations division experiencing a drop in overall employee satisfaction from 4.18 (2023) to 3.93 in 2024.
- A strong positive trend was observed in the AVP Business Operations Direct Reports unit, with the score improving from Good to Excellent range in 2024.
- Despite remaining in the Good range, the **Business Units** experienced the **highest decline** in overall employee satisfaction, dropping from 4.19 in 2023 to 3.88 in 2024.

#### "Overall, I am a satisfied employee" by Unit

1	,	2022	2023	2024
AVP Programs and Initiatives	All CE Specialists	3.62	3.59	3.79
	AVP Direct Reports		4.09	3.88
	Program Units	4.09	3.73	3.71
	Research and Extension Centers	3.50	3.54	3.59
	Strategic Institutes and Statewide Programs	3.46	3.63	3.83
	UC Cooperative Extension Offices	3.69	3.89	3.79
N=506	Total	3.65	3.79	3.78

- •Positive movement overall, with most units now in the Good range. Overall reflects steady improvement and incremental progress, suggesting that engagement and satisfaction efforts are working, though unevenly across units:
- •Strongest gains: All CE Specialists and Strategic Institutes & Statewide Programs show recovery and growth.
- •Watch areas: **Program Units** show a mild downward trend, and **Research & Extension Centers** remain on the cusp of "Moderate."

#### 2024 Staff@Work

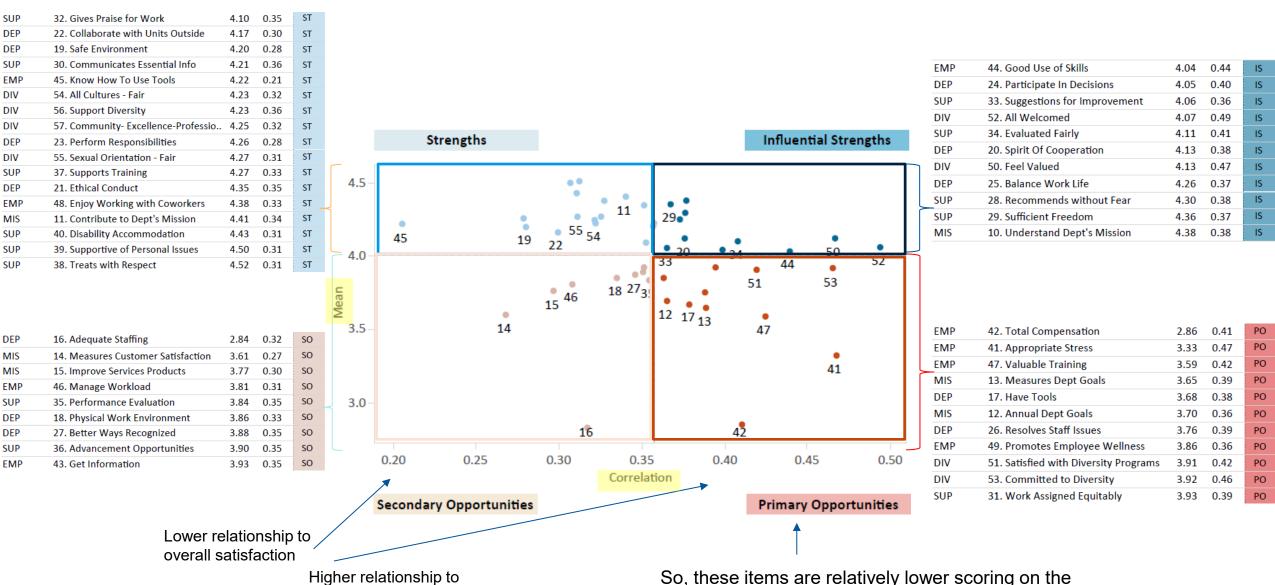
### **Highest and Lowest Scoring Results**

TOP SATISFACTION SCORES		LOWEST SATISFACTION SCORES			LARGEST CHANGES IN SCORES  ↑			
1	Treats with Respect	1	Adequate Staffing	1	Career Advancement -			
2	Supportive of Personal Issues	2	Total Compensation	2	Safe Environment			
3	Disability Accommodation	3	Appropriate Stress	3	Annual Dept Goals			
4	Contribution to Dept's Mission	4	Valuable Training	4	Good Use of Skills			
5	Understand Dept's Mission	5	Measures Customer Satisfaction	5	Appropriate Stress			

Overall, the Top Satisfaction Scores were very high – all earning 4.38 or above in 2024. The Lowest Satisfaction Scores repeated similar themes from 2023.

**Adequate Staffing and Total Compensation** are lower scoring – which is very common across institutions. Adding transparency around equity-reviews, fiscal constraints, and career progression resources have helped other leaders address these concerns.

#### **Drivers of VC Satisfaction**



survey AND "important" in how they impact overall

satisfaction with UCANR

overall satisfaction

DRIVERS OF SATISFACTION					
INFLUENTIAL STRENGTHS	PRIMARY OPPORTUNITIES				
All Welcomed	Total Compensation				
Feel Valued	Appropriate Stress				
Good Use of Skills	Committed to Diversity				
Evaluated Fairly	Valuable Training				
Understand Dept's Mission	Satisfied with Diversity Programs				

		2023	2024	
DIV	All Welcomed	IS	IS	
DIV	Feel Valued	IS	IS	
EMP	Good Use of Skills	IS	IS	INFLUENTIAL STRENGTHS
SUP	Evaluated Fairly	IS	IS	
MIS	Understand Dept's Mission	ST	IS	
EMP	Total Compensation	PO	PO	
EMP	Appropriate Stress	PO	PO	
DIV	Committed to Diversity	PO	PO	PRIMARY OPPORTUNITIES
EMP	Valuable Training	PO	PO	
DIV	Satisfied with Diversity Programs	РО	PO	

#### 2024 - ANR@Work Survey UCANR

ANR	JCA	NR						
	ement	extent you agree or disagree with  S. Select 'N/A' if it is not applicable	trongly Agree	Agree 4	Neutral	Disagree 2	Strongly Disagree	N/A
Satisfaction with UC ANR Department - Mission and Goals	2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	Overall, I am a satisfied UC ANR empli I feel valued as a member of the UC A Academics at UC ANR value my contri Staff members at UC ANR value my co Senior leadership at UC ANR value my co Senior leadership at UC ANR has adeq There are sufficient opportunities for I understand how my job performanc I feel I have a voice to provide my ide: I am satisfied with my opportunities fi I understand my department's mission I understand how my job performanc My department establishes annual de My department routinely measures of My department routinely takes action My department routinely takes action	NR community. butions. ntributions. uately communicate contact between see positively contributes and suggestions correareer advancem. pertmental perform partmental perform partmental perform partmental performs to the contribution of the contrib	nior leadership ar tes to UC ANR's N on how to improve ent at UC ANR. tes to my departn nance goals. mance goal achiev with services and	nd employees at UC ANR  vission.  e UC ANR.  ment's mission.  vements.  d products delivered.			
Department Effectiveness	17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26	My department has adequate staffing I have the tools (i.e., equipment and t My physical work environment (e.g., c feel physically safe while I am workin There is a spirit of cooperation within Most people in my department condust People in my department perfor I have the opportunity to participate i My department creates a flexible envi My department effectively resolves st People in my department are recomit	echnology) needed iffice, lab) is adequa g on-site, i.e., UC AI my department. ct themselves in an ged to work collabo m their responsibili n making decisions ! ronment that allow aff-related issues (i.	to perform my wo te for the job tha NR Office. (Note: ethical manner. oratively with unit ties. that affect my wo s me to balance n e., staff work inte	t I do. check N/A if you worked s outside of my immedia rk. ny work and personal life ractions).	ate area.	ing the last 12 months)	
Supervisor Effectiveness	29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39	I can make recommendations to my supervisor without fear of negative consequences.  I have sufficient freedom to decide how to best perform my work.  My supervisor communicates essential information on a timely basis.  Work is assigned equitably in my department.  My supervisor gives me praise for my work.  My supervisor gives me useful suggestions for improvement.  My performance is evaluated fairly.  My last annual evaluation provided me with information I could use to improve my performance.  My supervisor gives me opportunities that support my career advancement.  My supervisor actively supports my participation in training and education programs related to my job responsibilities.  My supervisor treats me with respect.  My supervisor is supportive when personal issues arise.  I would be comfortable speaking with my supervisor about my need for accommodation on the job due to a disability.						
Employee Effectiveness	41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48	I feel that the amount of stress associ I am satisfied with my total compensa I know how to get the information I n My job makes good use of my skills ar I know how to use the tools that I hav I am able to manage my work load eff The training that I receive at UC ANR i I enjoy working with my coworkers. ANR provides opportunities and progi	ated with my job is a tion, including salar and to be effective in ad abilities. e (i.e., equipment a actively. s valuable for impro	appropriate for m y, benefits, and re n my job. nd technology) to wing my job perfo	y position. etirement. do my work.			
Diversity and Climate	50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57	I feel valued by my department. Overall, I am satisfied with the diversi UC ANR promotes a work environmer top leaders at UC ANR are committed People of all ethnic groups, cultures, a People of all sexual orientations are to My department actively supports a di My department practices UC ANR's pr I can see myself working in the same I can see myself working at UC Agricul	ty related programs t where all people a to diversity. indexignounds are eated fairly in my d verse work environr inciples of Commun init in 1-2 year's tim	and services avai are welcomed. e treated fairly in epartment. nent. iity.	my department.			





# **UCANR Innovate Program Update**

UC ANR Town Hall | October 16, 2025





#### Agenda



- UCANR Innovate Statewide Program Overview
- FIRA USA Conference Oct. 21–23, Woodland
- Launch of the California AgTech Alliance



#### UCANR Innovate Statewide Program Overview

UCANR Innovate brings together people, resources, and ideas to accelerate agricultural, food, and biotech innovation in California. We develop practical technologies, generate use-inspired research, prepare a future ready workforce, and build the ecosystems and partnerships that make innovation possible: locally, regionally, and globally.

#### Four Ways We Create Impact



01

#### Advancing Practical Technologies

Identify high-potential innovations and guide them toward real-world application through field testing, market support, and connections to capital.

**Programs**: The VINE, FIRA USA, UCANR Tech Transfer, F3Local, CA AgTech, The Plant, FutureFood.

02

# Generating Use Inspired Research

Produce evidence and guidance (through applied research, data analysis, and policy engagement) that shape innovation

**Programs**: AIFS, GCEAC, BioCircular Valley, The VINE Institute, The Plant, FIRA USA, F3Local

03

# Enabling an Innovation Ready Workforce

Train and inspire students and incumbent workers so they have the skills and pathways needed to succeed with emerging technologies.

Programs: Farm Robotics Academy/Challenge, AIFS Career Exploration Fellowship, CA AgTech Network, FutureFood, The 04

#### Building Regional Innovation Ecosystems

Connect people, capital, and institutions to create the conditions where innovation can develop and scale

**Programs**: FutureFood, CA Agtech, The Plant, F3Local, Food Frontier



WHERE GROWERS MEET ROBOTS

**OCTOBER 21 - 23, 2025** 

WOODLAND | SACRAMENTO, CALIF.

**FREE FOR GROWERS** 





#### Launch of the California AgTech Alliance





#### Entrepreneurship & Commercialization

Accelerates new businesses and startup commercialization through incubation, acceleration, innovation grants, and technical assistance (includes the VINE Build and Connect programs).

#### **Workforce Development**

Develops a skilled statewide AgTech talent pipeline through programs for students, farmworkers, and adult learners (includes AWDP, Farm Robotics Challenge/Academy, Drones Uplift California Communities, and FARMS Field Days)

AgTech Network and Investment Hub

Unites regional efforts across the state for collaboration, branding, shared infrastructure, and an investor network—essentially the statewide coordination and network backbone.

# California AgTech Alliance Launch Press Conference

#### FIRA USA

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Wednesday, Oct. 22 | 10:30 - 11:00 AM
The Plaza, Yolo County Fairgrounds (Woodland, CA)



#### Speakers



Karen Ross Secretary, California Department of Food & Agriculture



Gabriel Youtsey
Chief Innovation Officer,
UC ANR



Walt Duflock SVP of Innovation, Western Growers



**Karen Aceves**Founder, ARKEN Strategies /
AgSTEP Workforce Program

#### In the Media

Yana Valachovic and Max Moritz talked to <u>Inside Climate News</u> and other publications about proposed Zone Zero regulations for wildfire resilience

**Tracy Schohr** told the <u>Sacramento Bee</u> wolves have killed 76 calves in California since March

**Edith de Guzman** told <u>Los Angeles Times</u> water bills in LA are rising faster than inflation; Yahoo, MSN and others picked up the story

**Lenya Quinn-Davidson** was featured in the <u>Cal alumni</u> magazine with a Q&A about managing wildfire and discussed prescribed burn associations in <u>Atmos</u>

**Katie Low** discussed prescribed burns for ranchers and farmers in <a href="Offrange">Offrange</a>

**Maurice Pitesky** was quoted in <u>Globe and Mail</u> on the risk of ostriches spreading bird flu and in <u>The Good Men Project</u> about data needed to track the disease



**Daniel Swain** is on the <u>TIME100</u>

<u>Next</u> list of rising leaders. He was quoted about weather by CNN, SF Chronicle, Live Science & LA Times

#### https://ucanr.edu/News/UC\_ANR\_in\_the\_news

#### New Hires: Welcome to UC ANR

September 15- October 14, 2025

Claudia F Carlos CALIFORNIA STATE 4-H OFFICE

Valarie DeBoard UCCE FRESNO MADERA MCP

Carly Deitsch SUSTAINABLE AG RESEARCH & EDU

Hanna H Enomoto COMMUNITY NUTRITION AND HEALTH

Zachary Adam Heier UCCE STANISLAUS COUNTY

Cheryl A Hyland IMM OFFICE AVP - BUS OPS

Patrice Johnson BUSINESS OPERATIONS CENTER

Jonathan Kaplan CA INST FOR WATER RESOURCES

Camila Quintana Del Carpio UCCE SHASTA COUNTY

Lorrene D Ritchie NUTRITION POLICY INSTITUTE

Roy Shannon SIERRA FOOTHILL REC

Blake Lawrence Shaw ANR FIRE NETWORK

Will Smith FINANCIAL SERVICES

Kristina Renee' Thurmon UCCE SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Lydia Tymon UCCE RIVERSIDE COUNTY

Alan C Wong RESOURCE PLANNING & MANAGEMENT



Camila Quintana & her dog Rafael



Lydia Tymon

## Other Updates

Branding Tool Kit Launch – Linda Forbes @Work Survey Focus Groups – Elizabeth Moon

#### **Brand Launch**

#### **Toolkit Updates**

- Horizontal and vertical logos in English are now available in the Communications Toolkit: <a href="https://ucanr.edu/site/communications-toolkit/logo-template-downloads">https://ucanr.edu/site/communications-toolkit/logo-template-downloads</a>
- Spanish logos and social media icons for Facebook and LinkedIn are in development
- Priority templates (PowerPoints, posters, etc.) will be developed after logo/icon work is complete
- Contact Linda Forbes at <a href="mailto:life">lforbes@ucanr.edu</a> with any questions or issues with files

#### **External Launch**

News release will go out on October 22

#### Logo Item Raffle Winners

Congratulations to the following randomly selected logo item raffle winners!

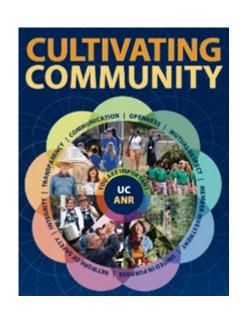
Annastasia Hermle Christy Getz Jill Tyler Katie Kilbane Kelly Hong



Univ of CA Agriculture and Natural Resources



#### **Principles of Community Highlight: Mutual Respect**



We empower our community to bring their authentic selves and unique contributions to ANR by centering respect in all actions and interactions.

How We Implement **Mutual Respect** In the Workplace:

- Using language that brings people into a conversation even when there are differing sides
- Being considerate with how we open space for each other
- Being fully present without distractions during meetings



#### 2024 @Work Survey Focus Groups

- The Inclusive Community Advisory Council (ICAC) collaborated with HR in analyzing the findings of the 2024 report.
  - From this, the council created the fall focus group opportunities for employees to share their voices
- Today is the last session for supervisors/managers and we have had almost 75 employees participate.
- Report will be provided to the ICAC and Leadership in early December. Strategic action will be developed from the results.





#### **Upcoming Opportunities of Learning**

NOV. 6, 2pm: NACP PT Leads Native
American Heritage Month
w/ Regent Sarris



Scan the QR code to register for the webinar!

# TODAY: Final Day for Inclusive Community Advisory Council Nominations

(formerly known as the Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Advisory

Council)

Advisory Council Chair: <a href="mailto:jhsiehw@ucanr.edu">jhsiehw@ucanr.edu</a>
Director, Workplace Inclusion & Belonging: <a href="mailto:emoon@ucanr.edu">emoon@ucanr.edu</a>



Scan the QR code to apply for the 2025
Nominations for ICAC!!

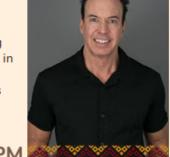
# UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA Agriculture and Natural Resources NATIVE AMERICAN



Oral History and Storytelling—a tradition central to Indigenous knowledge



Join us for a webinar with Regent Greg Sarris, Ph.D, as he shares how he has used storytelling to connect with the broad array of communities in his life, as a professor, UC Regent, and Tribal Member and Chairman of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, and how his work has uplifted Native American communities.



#### Thursday, November 6th at 2:00 PM



Registration Link: https://bit.ly/NAHMSarris

Introduction by UC ANR Native American Advisory Council member Lorelle WB Ross. She is emeritus Vice Chair of the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria and a dedicated advocate for tribal justice, cultural preservation, and Native community empowerment. Lorelle also holds key advisory roles, including Chair of the UC President's Native American Advisory Council.



Organized by the Native American Community Partnerships program team.



## THANK YOU!

# Next Town Hall November 20

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
Agriculture and Natural Resources