

Letter from Dennis McIver, Staff Assembly President

I hope this newsletter finds you well as we embark on a largely remote fall quarter.

As we finally conclude the summer, there's a lot we could discuss during this historic time. For the moment, I want to talk about a word that has stayed on my mind since July 1st: pride.

When I first applied to work for UCR in May of 2015, it was rooted in a sense of pride in the campus' beginnings and amazing strides it made in a remarkably short span of time. When I eventually received my opportunity to join UCR, I felt a deep sense of pride of where it was headed and the small role I could play. On each day, I've continued to feel that same pride when I interact with UCR's small but engaged community.

As this has happened, I've experienced a simultaneous sense of pride in being one of thousands of UCR's staff as we play an understated but pivotal role in where the campus is going. In every component of the UCR Experience, staff continue to be the glue that keeps the university together. It's in every action we do: Every paper we process, every meal cooked, every student given an encouraging nudge. Even as you read this, our staff – whether working from their kitchen table or from a socially distant space on campus – are quietly working as UCR's gears to keep things going.

The actions of March 2020 serve as an amazing example of our campus' capabilities. Over the course of less than a week, UCR's staff helped to do the impossible by taking the majority of our operations virtual. You responded to every challenge. You found innovative and creative ways to navigate the uncertainty. You continued to prove you are capable of exceptional things even in the greatest of uncertain circumstances.

The 2020-21 Academic year has and will continue to pose its own exceptional challenges. Still, I am confident and assured that despite our exceptional challenges, we are equipped with an exceptional group that serves as UCR's protectors.

In closing, I just want to state my pride in each of you for what you have and will do over the next year. You are seen. You are valued. You are appreciated.

UPCOMING OCTOBER EVENTS

UCR Staff Assembly Halloween Costume Contest

UCR Staff Assembly invites all UCR staff to participate in our annual Halloween costume contest! The contest is open now to Nov. 2nd. Please email your photos to staffassembly@ucr.edu by November 2nd.

Full rules are available at <https://staffassembly.ucr.edu/staff-halloween-costume-contest>.

UCR COVID-19 Employee Emergency Fund

If you have encountered a financial hardship due to COVID-19, please consider applying for the COVID-19 Employee Emergency Fund. You may learn more about the fund by visiting [here](#) and may apply [here](#). Applications received by Monday, October 5, 2020, will be given priority consideration.

To make a donation to the fund, visit [here](#).

Cast Your Vote on Tuesday, November 3rd!

Be sure you're registered to vote by October 19th.

[Register now >>](#)

[Check your registration >>](#)

If you would like to request a California mail-in ballot, make sure to print and mail the form before by October 27th.

[Request a mail-in ballot >>](#)

Learn more about registering to vote, [here](#).

Lunchtime Trivia

October 8 | Noon

Virtual Meeting

Join Staff Assembly President Dennis McIver as he offers Kahoot trivia to enjoy between bites at lunch! Assorted prizes will be offered for winners.

[View Event Details >>](#)

Lunch & Learn: Coping, parenting and quarantine

October 14 | Noon

Virtual Meeting

Hear from UCR psychologists and UCR parents who will discuss the challenges of raising children during the COVID-19 pandemic.

UCR Psychology Professors Kate Sweeny and Megan Robbins will share insights from their research about navigating the challenges of COVID-19 and share coping suggestions for families.

If you missed September's Lunch & Learn or would like a recap, view the recorded session [here](#).

If you would like on-demand professional branding and career development content, take advantage of Human Resources curated content on managing stress and uncertainty, [here](#).

[Sign Up for the Lunch and Learn>>](#)

Virtual / Live Bingo at The Barn

October 16 | 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm
The Barn / Virtual Meeting

Join Staff Assembly's Director of Finance Penni Ebina and President Dennis McIver for monthly Virtual Bingo! The event will also include participants from UCPath and UCDC. Up to 20 socially distant participants may do a "Live" session at The Barn on campus.

There will be two sessions: An early bird session from 4:40 to 5:45 and the normal session from 6 to 7:30. To sign up, please register by October 13th!

Registration link: https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_eo1AwbNVn8KVG85.

[View Event Details >>](#)

Get Recognized Award

October 22 | 12:00 pm - 12:15 pm
Virtual Meeting

Join Staff Assembly's Director of Involvement and Recognition Brianna Morales and the Recognition Committee to recognize the September Get Recognized winners! The Committee will also announce a new initiative for each month..

Also, consider nominating individuals and peers for Get Recognized! The Staff Assembly Recognition Committee will review submissions sent between now and May and select up to two winners each month. Each month's winners will receive a gift, be featured on the Staff Assembly website, and receive campus recognition during a special session.

To nominate a member or group, please visit:

https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_4JE5HiF31A7ZK1T

To learn more about the Get Recognized Program, please visit:

<https://staffassembly.ucr.edu/get-recognized>

Staff Assembly Fall General Meeting

October 28 | 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

Get connected with the Staff Assembly Executive Board as they share announcements for the 2020-21 year! The meeting will include comments from Chancellor Kim Wilcox and introduces Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Human Resources Officer Tammy Few.

We will also recognize service milestone recipients and recent retirees through an enhanced process. If you are scheduled to receive your milestone you will be contacted soon regarding the next steps.

Hope to see you there!

To register for the event (Zoom login information required), please visit: https://ucr.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hlfUnZDMRV-sN857NKfjVQ

[View Event Details >>](#)

Pictionary with “celebrity drawer” Vice Provost Jennifer Brown

October 30 | Noon

Virtual Meeting

Staff Assembly Vice President Jeff Girod will be joined by “celebrity drawer” Vice Provost Brown for an hour of fun, prizes and crudely drawn random objects. Contestants will win up to \$100 in prizes. You don't want to miss this!

[View Event Details>>](#)

Join Society '54!

For as little as \$4.50 per month, you can join Society '54 and receive a decorative pin and VIP access to upcoming Staff Assembly virtual events.

More importantly, when you support Staff Assembly you are supporting the UCR Staff experience. Every dollar you give helps UCR staff.

[Learn More>>](#)

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