

Letter from Dennis McIver, Staff Assembly President

This month, I will officially complete five years here at UCR. While there are many things that come to mind in this moment, the most prominent one is gratitude.

Over these past few years I have been very thankful for having a strong network of colleagues, supervisors and friends who provided encouragement and support while I grew as a professional and a person.

I have also been thankful for Staff Assembly which has encouraged me to grow in ways I never expected. As we navigate through these difficult times, I'm thankful for its Past Presidents who have been understanding, knowledgeable and encouraging as we enter a very unique phase in our organization's history. I am equally thankful for this year's Executive Board which keeps me in awe.

I'm routinely reminded that gratitude is free but priceless. In the spirit of the recently announced [30-Day Live Kind campaign](#), I hope you'll consider taking a moment to participate in the challenge and give thanks to people who have supported you during your time at UCR.

There are a few possibilities to show gratitude that come to mind, both in and out of Staff Assembly:

- If you have one person you'd like to thank, Staff Assembly has created a virtual [Thank You Beary Much](#) card;
- If you have a small group (less than ten) that you'd like to send a message to, you can use [Kudoboard](#) to acknowledge them for free.
- If you have an individual or group of up to three people who you think are doing amazing things, please consider nominating them through [Staff Assembly's Get Recognized Program](#). Recipients selected for Get Recognized will receive a prize and be celebrated during a monthly campus wide event.
- If you are thankful for work that a larger team is doing, consider nominating them for *Unsung*, a quarterly program Staff Assembly recently created. You may send nominations to staffassembly@ucr.edu. Groups selected for *Unsung* will receive recognition during each quarter's General Meeting. During last week's General Meeting we honored Facilities Services' Central Plant and Housing Custodial Team, and look forward to doing this during future quarters.

As we navigate the second half of this quarter, I hope you know I am thankful for your diligent efforts and engagement. Whether you attended our recent General Meeting, listened in during the recent curtailment Q&A, or sent a photo for our Halloween costume contest, we appreciate your willingness to engage and support us. It is our great privilege to work with and for you.

To learn more, please be sure to visit our [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page.

OCTOBER RECAPS

Halloween Costume Contest Winners

The Staff Assembly Halloween Costume Contest winners have been announced! Congratulations to all category winners and thank you to everyone who sent their submissions. All winners will be contacted via email. Make your way to the [Staff Assembly Facebook page](#) to see photos of the creative costumes!

- Most Participants – Student Affairs Marketing and Communications presents “Hollyweird Squares”
 - Scariest – Carl Dugdale, SRC
 - Best Theme – Four Seasons by Career Center
 - Best solo Costume – Sophia Jurisch, Statistics
 - People’s Choice – Elisha Hankins & Justice Hankins, UCR Library
 - Staff Assembly Choice – Welcome to Wonderland, ECS
 - Best Home Halloween Decorations – Christina Gnuschke
 - Best Family Costume – Jurassic Park, Krysta Guerrero, Athletics
 - Best Pet Costume – Ladybug from Claudia Andrade, University Extension
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Staff Assembly Fall General Meeting

Staff Assembly held the Virtual Fall General Meeting on Wednesday, October 28, 2020. Over 400 staff members joined our virtual meeting to hear remarks by Chancellor Kim Wilcox and meet Associate Vice Chancellor and Chief Human Resources Officer Tammy Few! We also recognized service milestone recipients and recent retirees, and shared announcements for the 2020-21 year. If you were unable to attend or would like to revisit the meeting, watch the recording here: <https://fb.watch/1BuQyW8kGW/>. You can also view the presentation slides, [here](#).

To share feedback regarding the meeting, you are invited to complete the following survey: https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_2IRLHdtw9NJmeix

Congratulations to our winners of the Fall General Meeting Raffles! Winners will also be announced on Facebook and will be contacted via email.

From Annual Giving

UCR sock/cup combos - Scott Biggerstaff
UCR sock/cup combos - Griselda Rodriguez
UCR sock/cup combos - Erin Staley

From Schools First

\$25 amazon gift card - Judith Abbey
\$25 amazon gift card - William Southwick
\$25 amazon gift card - Blanca Contreras
\$25 amazon gift card - Jose Aguilar Sr.

Curtailment Question & Answer with Associate Vice Chancellor/ Chief Human Resources Officer Tammy Few

In response to the recently proposed curtailment policy, Associate Vice Chancellor / Chief human Resources Officer Tammy Few held a Q&A session for staff members. If you missed the live session on November 4th, view the recording, [here](#).

To send questions about the survey, email Human Resources at humanresources@ucr.edu.

Upcoming November Events

National Novel Writing Month

Ever wanted to try writing a book? Want to finish that novel you started years ago? Looking for something to do in November? November is National Novel Writing Month! Join fellow amateur authors all over the globe as we strive to write 50k words (or whatever goal you set for yourself).

This year, Staff Assembly has created a group called UC Riverside Staff to help you get through the hard times and celebrate the good times. We will host writing parties and have social hours to check in and ask questions. For those who are interested in participating but have questions, email Katherine.vanhorn@ucr.edu.

Staff Assembly Lunch & Learn: Be Kind to Yourself

November 18 | 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Virtual Meeting

Learn how to minimize stress, improve your health and wellness, and make better food choices during the holidays.

Workshop includes:

- Healthy holiday recipes and menus
- Gratitude-building exercises
- How to stay active with light movement

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

Get Recognized Award

November 19 | 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 October Get Recognized winners!

Also, consider nominating individuals and peers for Get Recognized! The Staff Assembly Recognition Committee will review submissions 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>

Virtual / Live Bingo at The Barn

November 20 | 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 November 18th!

Registration link: https://ucriverside.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0PtN2qzli7HUjvn

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](#).

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

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>>](#)

Follow us on social media!

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Instagram: [@ucrstaffassembly](https://www.instagram.com/ucrstaffassembly)

Twitter: [@ucrsa](https://twitter.com/ucrsa)

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