

ANR STAFF ASSEMBLY CURRENT, Vol. 1, No. 2

Sept. 13, 2022

Staff Assembly Current e-news: What did Staff Assembly do in FY21-22?

This is your monthly Staff Assembly e-newsletter, distributed on the second Tuesday of each month. 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.)

What did Staff Assembly do in FY21-22?

Through the work of Staff Assembly Council members and committees, employees all across ANR benefited from a variety of programs in the past year. Some of the highlights include:

- More than \$6,000 awarded through the **Educational Reimbursement Program**, to help support staff in their pursuit of degrees and professional development
- 62 approved applications for funding from **ANR Grows**, which encourages staff to grow healthy fruits and vegetables in their gardens
- Allocated \$2,500 through a pilot **Wellness Reimbursement Program** that helped 50 employees purchase exercise equipment, gym memberships and other wellness-related items
- More than 60 participants in a hybrid **ANR Moves** event, a celebration of healthy physical activity
- Partnership with Academic Assembly on **Coffee with the Assemblies**, sessions in which staff and academics participate in open discussions about key organizational topics and the assemblies' priorities and goals

For more details on Staff Assembly programs in FY21-22, download and view a [snapshot of SAC activities](#) (Powerpoint deck).

Learn about new UC ANR Latinos & Friends Affinity Group

Coinciding with [Hispanic Heritage Month celebrations](#), the newly formed [UC ANR Latinos & Friends Affinity Group](#) will have a virtual kickoff meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 21, from noon to 12:45 p.m.

All members of the ANR community are welcome and invited to learn about the group's plans, goals, dreams and vision of "Unión, Respeto, Armonía." [Register to participate](#).

The mission of the UC ANR Latinos & Friends Affinity Group is "to create a safe space for all the Latinx who work at UC ANR. A space where we can showcase our own diversity, break implicit biases, and end stereotypes. A place where we can celebrate **Juntos** (together) unique places of our country of origin, memories of our ancestors, their legacy, and heritage. This is our stage to showcase and educate our peers about who we are and what makes us unique. Strengthen old friendships and forge new ones."

SAC members united in their mission to support ANR staff

Although members of ANR Staff Assembly Council are scattered across California and have diverse backgrounds and career paths, they share common goals for Staff Assembly and their work on the all-volunteer council.

Every Staff Assembly Council member is committed to supporting ANR employees by creating and promoting programs that enhance our workplace culture, advance professional development and improve the lives of staff. [Learn more about their hopes and vision for Staff Assembly](#) and how they plan to help staff take advantage of its offerings.

They also want to hear from you! Every SAC member emphasized the importance of Staff Assembly as a forum and platform for feedback, and encouraged all staff to reach out with ideas, suggestions and concerns. Contact information can be found on the [Staff Assembly Council page](#).

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!