

UC Davis Report to CUCEA
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These last few years of COVID-impacted work have been difficult for all of our campuses. Nonetheless, UC Davis met these challenges well and relatively cordially. As with all campuses, the changing status of our COVID knowledge added to individual challenges.

UC Davis mounted an aggressive approach to the epidemic that yielded one of the lowest infection rates and one of the highest vaccination rates. This was enabled by a varied vaccine campaign that involved many students and community volunteers both testing and educating the campus and local community, called Healthy Davis Together. The free testing protocol using a simple spit test was well tolerated, gave very rapid results and the many testing sites both on campus and in the surrounding communities led to a positive attitude of cooperation. UCDEA was happy to provide information to help our members, etc. Since it was easy to use the campus protocols, we were able to encourage members to come to campus to be tested and to get additional information.

UCDEA working with UCDRA provided a vibrant set of online events. Our “brainfood” talks were very well attended both by local members, but very encouragingly, by many large numbers of our emeriti/ae. It took a good deal of support from our UC Davis Retiree Center staff to master the art of large zoom meetings and talks and events but on balance, I think this virtual development helped many members keep up with interesting and current affairs, no matter where they “zoomed” from. UCD was also grateful to host the successful hybrid meeting with Jagdeep Bachher interviewed by UCD’s Jim Chalfant.

Recently, UCDEA has been able to resume in person interviews with Emeriti/ae and other retirees, including our Academic Retirees and Emeriti Luncheon on April 20, attended by as many as 150 retirees and emeriti.

In addition, our committees continued on with awards, nominations and discussions. It was a pleasure to honor Professor Ken Burtis with the 2021-22 Distinguished Emeritus Award, as well as Fredric Gorin, Halifu Osumare and Howard Ferris, winners of the 21-22 Edward A. Dickson Professorship Awards.

Another recent project of UCDEA was to develop an up-to-date EA manual to include the responsibilities of UCDEA, its officers and committees. This manual will serve as a key reference piece for the UCDEA Executive Committee as we move into the future, and our many thanks are sent to Suad Joseph and Jo Ann Boorkman for championing this project.

Last year, UCDEA and UCDRA began an effort to provide support to students with housing insecurity by encouraging our members and others to help our students by contributing to our initiative on UC Davis Give Day. The fundraising group chose Aggie Compass, an on-campus

organization which provides food and housing help to students in need as their organization to support. This year, both EA and RA boards worked together to more than double the contributions solicited from our board members, raising \$21,600 among members of both boards. On Give Day, we hope contributions from the greater retiree and emeriti population help bolster this amount. Give Day at UC Davis runs for 29 hours over April 22-23 and we are hoping for a very robust participation. This effort was led by our VP Suad Joseph and a very devoted UCDEA-UCDRA fundraising committee.

In all, while the past several years have had their challenges, UCDEA has remained involved and worked to create new opportunities for our members and to help the campus.