



SACRAMENTO STATE

► My Sac State ► Contact ► Directories

ABOUT ACADEMICS ADMISSIONS ATHLETICS MAKE A GIFT QUICK LINKS ▼

## ADMINISTRATION & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

[Sac State Home](#)

[ABA Home](#)

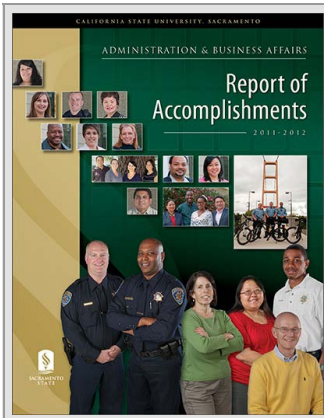
[Recognition Program](#)

[Thank-you Blog](#)



# FOCUS

SUPPORTING STAFF PROFESSIONALISM AND SUCCESS  
VOL. 7 | ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2013



### ABA News

ABA's 2011-12 annual report is not just a summary of ABA's annual accomplishments, it's a celebration of the staff who make them happen.

For the recent report, Vice President Mike Lee wanted to focus on the people behind the great things that ABA does to support Sacramento State. The 2011-12 ABA Report of Accomplishments is a tribute to ABA's Staff Professionals and the work that they do.

Inside, you will find stories featuring staff, students, and programs designed to improve services to ABA customers and connect with the greater...[read more](#).

[Front Page](#)

[ABA News](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Awards & Recognition](#)

[Green News](#)

[Message From The VP](#)

[New Faces & Farewells](#)

[Staff Spotlight](#)

[Talents Abound](#)

[Thank You](#)

[Printable Copy](#)



### Staff Spotlight

In each issue, the FOCUS Newsletter spotlights an ABA staff member whose work deserves mention.

This edition explores ideas around "redefinition," asking how staff professionals have grown in their careers while working in ABA...[read more](#).



### Green News

In an ongoing effort to create a welcoming, beautiful and functional campus environment for our students, the Facilities Services Grounds crew spent the summer installing low-cost landscaping features across the campus that consist of

flower and plant beds surrounded by rock planters and...[read more](#).



### Message from the VP

It is hard to believe that summer is coming to an end. Over the next few weeks, the campus community will begin to swell with activity as we kick off another academic year. With close to 8,000 incoming freshman and...[read more](#)



### ABA Awards

The ABA Staff Peer Awards Program is a recognition program that allows ABA staff to recognize the valuable contributions of their colleagues.

Awards are presented annually in the following categories: Customer Service...[read more](#).

ABA FOCUS  
Is Published By The  
Administration & Business  
Affairs  
Office Of Strategic Planning &  
Quality Improvement  
  
California State University,  
Sacramento  
  
PRESIDENT  
Alexander Gonzalez  
  
VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO  
Ming-Tung "Mike" Lee

EDITOR  
Sarah Whyte

WEB EDITORS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

WRITERS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

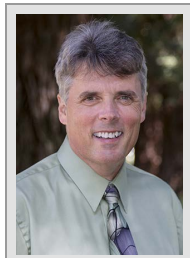
PHOTOGRAPHY  
Bruce Clarke  
Joey Martinez  
Sam Parsons  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte



## Announcements

Please join us as we welcome **Associate Vice President Jeannie Wong and Director Jack Vaughn** for a lively presentation about **Social Media** as part of ABA's Speaker Series.

Together, they will discuss their experience with Sac State's primary social media outlets, and how they manage the news flow to reach Sac State's 15,500 Facebook and 8,000 Twitter followers...[read more](#)



## ABA Says 'Thanks'

ABA hosts a Thank You Blog on its website to make it easy for staff to acknowledge support from colleagues and to recognize

their work publicly.

Don't know what to say? You don't need to be elaborate - just a simple "thank you," an explanation of what was done and how much you appreciate it, is all that's...[read more](#).



## ABA's Got Talent

Stacy Hayano, associate vice president of Budget Planning & Administration, prides herself on both her work and her prize-winning German Shepherd, Jackson.

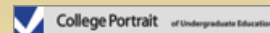
Jackson has been awarded Best of Winners in two events this year, first in March, and most recently in August. Jackson has been competing since he was just a pup, around nine months old.

Competition for this title is tough. "There are Specialty shows that are sponsored by the various German Shepherd dog clubs which are highly competitive. The judges are...[read more](#).



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO  
6000 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819  
(916) 278 - 6011

[Comments & Questions](#)   [A to Z Index](#)   [Accessibility](#)





# ADMINISTRATION & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

[Sac State Home](#)

[ABA Home](#)

[Recognition Program](#)

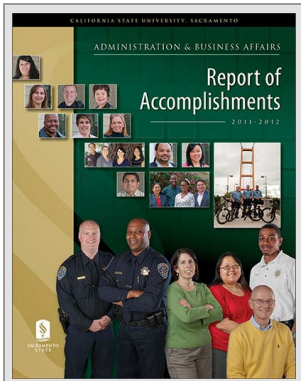
[Thank-you Blog](#)



# FOCUS

SUPPORTING STAFF PROFESSIONALISM AND SUCCESS  
VOL. 7 | ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2013

## ABA NEWS



### 2011-2012 ABA Report - Focused on Staff

ABA's 2011-12 annual report is not just a summary of ABA's annual accomplishments, it's a celebration of the staff responsible for making them happen.

For the recent report, Vice President Mike Lee wanted to focus on the people behind the great things that ABA does to support Sacramento State. The 2011-12 ABA Report of Accomplishments is a tribute to ABA's Staff Professionals and the work that they do.

Inside, you will find stories featuring staff, students, and programs designed to improve services to ABA customers and connect with the greater community.

If you haven't already read the report, [click here](#).

### Financial Services Salutes Summer

This summer, Financial Services family employees wanted to have some fun, despite the long days and oppressive heat. Enter... [Financial Services Summer 2013 Fun Days!](#)

Early on, on June 14, staff from across the department celebrated Flag Day. Participants were encouraged to dress their best, in red, white and blue, with their own best representations of the American flag. The photo to right shows a salute to the occasion and to the creativity of staff in the Student Financial Services Center.

Staff continued fun days, with at least one each month - with July 19 designated Hawaiian shirt day and August 23, Sac State shirt day, when financial services staff demonstrated school pride.



[Front Page](#)

[ABA News](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Awards & Recognition](#)

[Green News](#)

[Message From The VP](#)

[New Faces & Farewells](#)

[Staff Spotlight](#)

[Talents Abound](#)

[Thank You](#)

[Printable Copy](#)

ABA FOCUS  
Is Published By The  
Administration & Business  
Affairs  
Office Of Strategic Planning &  
Quality Improvement

California State University,  
Sacramento

PRESIDENT  
Alexander Gonzalez

VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO  
Ming-Tung "Mike" Lee

EDITOR  
Sarah Whyte

WEB EDITORS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

WRITERS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Bruce Clarke  
Joey Martinez  
Sam Parsons  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

## Tradition Resumes with Fiscal Year-End Training



With each summer comes another fiscal year-end, when the staff of Financial Services works determinedly to meet strict deadlines. Training is provided to those who process reports. So, in late May, staff from Accounting Services attended a "Year-End Training" in Los Angeles where the Chancellor's Office and the CSU's external auditors conveyed year-end accounting and reporting rules, regulations, and timelines. With deadlines so tight, this information is critical.

In-person training has been suspended over the last five years, replaced with web-based training due to budget constraints. But the consensus is that in-person training is

best. "This year's in-person training reminded me how important it is to hear things first hand," said Kendal Chaney-Buttleman, university controller."

The return to in-person training brought back a tradition from years past - enjoying dinner at Mama D's Restaurant after hours. Mama D's has history with Financial Services. Kendal explains: "The training is held at a hotel near the airport, and there is really nowhere to eat nearby. Years ago, Justine Heartt and I just happened upon Mama D's and loved it, so it became a tradition! This year, we had two staff members new to the training, so we made a point to introduce them to Mama D's."

The dinner serves as more than just as another meal. "The shuttle ride, dinner at Mama D's, and walking out on the pier are all opportunities to rehash what we learned that day as well as get to know each other better," concluded Kendal.

## ABA Web Redesign - In the Home Stretch!



ABA's website revision project, which includes over 25 websites, each consisting of multiple webpages, is nearing completion. Over the summer, ABA's Strategic Planning & Quality Improvement office, in conjunction with ABA web editors and managers, and IRT launched the following websites:

- [Administrative Operations](#)
- [Accounting Services](#)
- [Accounts Payable](#)
- [Hornet Ticket Office](#) (formerly University Ticket Office)
- [Mail Services](#)
- [Procurement & Contract Services](#)
  - [Central Receiving](#)
  - [Property Management](#)
- [Reprographics Services](#)
- [Student Financial Services](#)

Websites still in process include Risk Management Services home page and units: Business Continuity, Environmental Health & Safety, Risk Management, and Worker's Compensation. Space Management, which is also a unit of RMS, was completed in January.

One of the most recent successful revisions is the [Reprographics site](#), which includes a [gallery of products](#) to showcase the breadth of sophisticated services available right here on campus. And, we hope the [Accounts Payable](#) and [Accounting](#) sites provide more instruction and information to help business partners more easily access services.

Once all division sites are launched, ABA's comprehensive website conversion will be a complete, with all organizational units featuring the new Monet template and consistent, user-friendly organization of information. At that time, ABA will survey campus users to determine effectiveness, and capture feedback for future improvements. ABA web editors, who update each of the department and unit sites, will meet routinely to share best practices and troubleshoot problems and issues to maintain the integrity of ABA's websites.

## Key Staff Attend Conference

From June 2 to June 5, key Financial Services and Budget Planning staff attended the 75th Annual Western Association of College and University Business Officers (WACUBO) Conference.

The conference focused on major challenges facing higher education in planning, budgeting, finance, operations, organizational leadership and effectiveness, and technology.

This year's conference was held in Anchorage, Alaska. WACUBO provides business and financial officers with opportunities to develop professionally, to identify solutions for issues affecting higher education, and to share expertise with colleagues.



## Joint Effort Prepares Campus for Emergencies

On July 31, the University Police Department joined key players on campus and in the community for a tabletop exercise to ensure that the campus is informed and adequately prepared for emergencies.

The exercise, involving Sacramento Office of Emergency Services and Sacramento police and fire departments, along with key campus personnel, was a successful half-day event in which participants played

out a sequence of response steps when presented with a simulated emergency situation. In this case, the scenario involved a hazardous materials release, which is among the University's identified vulnerabilities.

Tabletop exercises clarify roles and responsibilities, potential gaps in the preparedness plan, and allow issues to be brought up, explored and resolution found to successfully conduct an evacuation or shelter in place.



## ABA Spring Social Recap



ABA hosted yet another successful ABA Spring Social event. This year's even saw many changes, with food, drinks, decorations, all set to a Polynesian theme, as well as the second annual ABA Cook-Off.

Attendees were even treated to a special Polynesian dance performance from Bernadette Tano's daughter and dance organization.

The pictures below showcase the excitement and fun attendees had this year!





## ADMINISTRATION & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

[Sac State Home](#)

[ABA Home](#)

[Recognition Program](#)

[Thank-you Blog](#)



# FOCUS

SUPPORTING STAFF PROFESSIONALISM AND SUCCESS  
VOL. 7 | ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2013

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ABA Speaker Series

Please join us as we welcome **Associate Vice President Jeannie Wong and Director Jack Vaughn** for a lively presentation about **Social Media** as part of ABA's Speaker Series. Together, they will discuss their experience with Sac State's primary social media outlets, and how they manage the news flow to reach Sac State's 15,500 Facebook and 8,000 Twitter followers.

**Thursday, September 19, 2013  
10 - 11:30 a.m.**

**Sacramento State Alumni Center**

Please RSVP to Kimberly Donaville - [kdonavil@csus.edu](mailto:kdonavil@csus.edu) or (916) 278-6312



Jeannie Wong is the associate vice president of University Communications, Public Affairs and Advocacy, with responsibility for communications and marketing at Sac State. The Office of Public Affairs utilizes social media, along with press releases and other print materials, e-newsletters, videos, the University's website, ad buys, hosted events and the digital billboard to communicate with the campus community and external audiences.

Prior to her Sac State appointment in 2011, Wong worked for the Sacramento Bee, where she served as a features editor/department lead. She has additional newspaper experience working with the: *Oakland Tribune*, *San Diego Union*, *Modesto Bee*, *Pasadena Star-News* and *Los Angeles Times*. Wong holds a bachelor's degree in print journalism from the University of Southern California.

Jack Vaughn is the director of Web Communications, Public Affairs and Advocacy, providing leadership to the social media team and oversight for the University's Facebook and Twitter platforms. He is also responsible for the University's home page websites for News Services and University e-newsletters.

Prior to joining Sacramento State in 2011, he served as an assigning editor, national editor and copy desk chief for the *Sacramento Bee*.

Jack holds a bachelor's degree in history from Stanford University and was managing editor of the *Stanford Daily*.



- [Front Page](#)
- [ABA News](#)
- [Announcements](#)
- [Awards & Recognition](#)
- [Green News](#)
- [Message From The VP](#)
- [New Faces & Farewells](#)
- [Staff Spotlight](#)
- [Talents Abound](#)
- [Thank You](#)
- [Printable Copy](#)

ABA FOCUS  
Is Published By The  
Administration & Business  
Affairs  
Office Of Strategic Planning &  
Quality Improvement

California State University,  
Sacramento

PRESIDENT  
Alexander Gonzalez

VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO  
Ming-Tung "Mike" Lee

EDITOR  
Sarah Whyte

WEB EDITORS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

WRITERS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Bruce Clarke  
Joey Martinez  
Sam Parsons  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

## Upcoming ABA Events

---

Mark your calendars! The following ABA events are slated for the second half of 2013:

**ABA Speaker Series - September 19, 2013, 10-11:30 a.m., Alumni Center**

**All Staff Professionals Meeting - November 14, 2013, 9-11 a.m., TBD**

**VP Coffee & Conversation - November 19, 2013, 1:30-3:30 p.m., SAC 161**

**ABA Appreciation Luncheon - December 18, 2013, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Alumni Center**



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO  
6000 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819  
(916) 278 - 6011

[Comments & Questions](#)   [A to Z Index](#)   [Accessibility](#)







SACRAMENTO  
STATE

► My Sac State ► Contact ► Directories

ABOUT ACADEMICS ADMISSIONS ATHLETICS MAKE A GIFT QUICK LINKS ▼

## ADMINISTRATION & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

[Sac State Home](#)

[ABA Home](#)

[Recognition Program](#)

[Thank-you Blog](#)



# FOCUS

SUPPORTING STAFF PROFESSIONALISM AND SUCCESS  
VOL. 7 | ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2013

## ABA AWARDS & RECOGNITION

### Facilities Services Recognizes Employees of the Month



#### May 2013 - Robert Toal, Electrician

"Robert's strong work ethic and concern for the University earned him this month's award. There was a campus wide power outage on April 4, 2013. The entire electric shop responded quickly to restore service and begin troubleshooting.

Robert was determined to figure out what happened. Using binoculars, he scanned nearby power lines and the embankment underneath. He discovered a group of partially melted Mylar balloons that were settled in the weeds not far from the power lines, the likely cause of the campus outage. Because of Robert's determination, self-motivation and persistence, we were able to close the case on this mysterious and serious incident."

#### June 2013 - Yao Saechao, Custodian

"Yao's pattern of attendance is perfect and productive. Yao is always on time, never late, shows up ready to go and has an excellent work ethic. His coworkers and supervisors alike view him as a 'Superstar'!

Everyone wishes to have Yao on their team, which gives evidence to his ability to foster positive relationships. He is a great team player as well as an effective project leader. He treats everyone with respect, and is very well respected."



#### July 2013 - Auggie Johnson, Facilities Project Supervisor

"Auggie is punctual, constantly prepared for the task at hand, and fully engaged and accessible throughout his shift. Auggie has proven that he is committed to maintaining his accountability for delivering quality customer service.

He keeps his staff productively focused on the task at hand, and efficiently balances the need for meeting the University's mission in the most competitive manner possible. Auggie's leadership as a change agent is very much needed and valued."



[Front Page](#)

[ABA News](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Awards & Recognition](#)

[Green News](#)

[Message From The VP](#)

[New Faces & Farewells](#)

[Staff Spotlight](#)

[Talents Abound](#)

[Thank You](#)

[Printable Copy](#)

ABA FOCUS  
Is Published By The  
Administration & Business  
Affairs  
Office Of Strategic Planning &  
Quality Improvement

California State University,  
Sacramento

PRESIDENT  
Alexander Gonzalez

VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO  
Ming-Tung "Mike" Lee

EDITOR  
Sarah Whyte

WEB EDITORS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

WRITERS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Bruce Clarke  
Joey Martinez  
Sam Parsons  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

## August 2013 - Linda Deegan, Gardening Specialist

"Linda is someone who will pick up right where she left off on a pruning project, cleaning out a flower bed, or repairing an irrigation system, thus making regular full circles throughout her assigned zone. This in turn helps keep the area in top shape year round and really assists us in our goals.

Linda works side by side with three Grounds workers that are assigned within her larger zone. Linda possesses a strong background in Horticulture and she has consistently shared this knowledge with her co-workers while they complete their daily tasks together. This contributes to a progressive and enlightening work atmosphere for those around her."



## Public Safety Honored by MADD

On June 1st, Nathan Rice and Matt Light were honored by representatives of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for their role in reducing the number of drunk drivers in California.

As Police Chief Mark Iwasa explains "The MADD Award recognizes law enforcement officers for their key role in reducing the impact of drunk drivers in the state.

Sacramento State Police Officers Light and Rice vigilantly patrol our jurisdiction and root out this dangerous element. Although a drunk driving arrest is costly to the driver, it

pales in comparison to the death and destruction that impaired driving can and does cause."



## View the Winners of the 2013 ABA Staff Peer Awards

The ABA Staff Peer Awards Program is a recognition program that allows ABA staff to recognize the valuable contributions of their colleagues. Awards are presented annually in the following categories: Customer Service, Problem Solver, Teamwork, Positive Attitude, Professionalism, and Innovation.

Awardees are recommended to the vice president by a selection team, many of them 2012 award recipients.

To view a full list of this year's awardees and the selection team, [click here](#).

## Public Safety Recognizes Employee and Student of the Quarter

Each quarter, Public Safety recognizes one student and one employee for the employee and student of the month program. The winners are recognized publicly amongst their colleagues and treated to an office potluck. The latest winners are:

### Employee of the Quarter, 2nd Quarter 2013 - Paul Skrinie

"Officer Skrinie always arrives to work in a cheerful and positive manner. He works very hard each day to accomplish something positive for the department. He is a proactive officer who is a great teammate as well. Officer Skrinie is professional, hard-working and he always has the best interests of the campus community at heart. His positive attitude is infectious and he helps to make this a great place to work."





**Student of the Quarter, 2nd Quarter 2013 - Aleksandra Blagadarova**

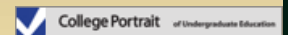
"CSO Aleksandra Blagadarova was working the graveyard shift at the Residence Hall when she observed a suspicious male subject loitering in the quad area. She did not believe the subject to be a student, so she provided clear and concise radio traffic of the subject's actions, descriptions and direction of travel that were beneficial to the responding officers.

Once officers arrived at the scene, they were able to immediately identify the subject. Based on CSO Blagadarova's action, we were able to identify and stop a potential bicycle thief. CSO Blagadarova did an excellent job maintaining her officer's safety awareness by not attempting to contact the suspicious subject herself. Great job Aleksandra!"



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO  
6000 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819  
(916) 278 - 6011

[Comments & Questions](#)   [A to Z Index](#)   [Accessibility](#)





# ADMINISTRATION & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

[Sac State Home](#)

[ABA Home](#)

[Recognition Program](#)

[Thank-you Blog](#)



# FOCUS

SUPPORTING STAFF PROFESSIONALISM AND SUCCESS  
VOL. 7 | ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2013

## ABA GREEN NEWS



### Beauty Meets Function

In an ongoing effort to create a welcoming, beautiful and functional campus environment for our students, the Facilities Services Grounds crew spent the summer installing low-cost landscaping features across the campus that consist of flower and plant beds surrounded by rock planters and retaining walls.

The new settings serve as both a means to guide pedestrians along intended walkways and enhance the natural beauty in key campus locations.

The planters contain primarily sustainable California native plants, a practice aligned with the University's commitment to sustainability. They also serve as rest and seating areas for the campus community.

Depicted below are "before and after" pictures of progress made near Brighton Hall. Even on a campus well regarded for its beautiful tree-covered natural environment, there is always room for improvement.



[Front Page](#)

[ABA News](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Awards & Recognition](#)

[Green News](#)

[Message From The VP](#)

[New Faces & Farewells](#)

[Staff Spotlight](#)

[Talents Abound](#)

[Thank You](#)

[Printable Copy](#)

ABA FOCUS  
Is Published By The  
Administration & Business  
Affairs  
Office Of Strategic Planning &  
Quality Improvement

California State University,  
Sacramento

PRESIDENT  
Alexander Gonzalez

VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO  
Ming-Tung "Mike" Lee

EDITOR  
Sarah Whyte

WEB EDITORS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

WRITERS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Bruce Clarke  
Joey Martinez  
Sam Parsons  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

## Campaign Begins at Sac State



In a collaborative effort between Sac State's Sustainability Program, The Well's Student Health Center Pharmacy and the California Product Stewardship Council, Sac State is sponsoring a collection bin for pharmaceuticals, the first of its kind in Sacramento.

The Rx bin, located just inside The Well, is a means for students, faculty, and staff to properly dispose of their over-the-counter medications, non-narcotic prescriptions, and unwanted vitamins and supplements.

According to Pharmacist Janet Dumonchelle, 40 percent of all prescription medication ends up improperly discarded or flushed. This leads to medications ending up in our water ways. "Take the first step toward cleaning up our water supplies and protecting families," advocated Pharmacist Janet Dumonchelle, during her August Business

Partners Round Table presentation. "Let us show our commitment to protecting the environment and preventing prescription abuse."

For pill-based medications and supplements, users are instructed to place them in a plastic bag and drop the bag into the designated drop box. For liquid-based medications, instructions include removing any identifying labels/personal information before depositing the bottle into the drop box. All deposits are intended to be anonymous.

This is not only the first of six bins planned for the Sacramento area, but the first one located on a CSU campus.

For more information about the program, visit the Student Health & Counseling Services' [Medication Disposal webpage](#).



SACRAMENTO STATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO  
6000 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819  
(916) 278 - 6011

[Comments & Questions](#)   [A to Z Index](#)   [Accessibility](#)





SACRAMENTO  
STATE

► My Sac State ► Contact ► Directories

ABOUT ACADEMICS ADMISSIONS ATHLETICS MAKE A GIFT QUICK LINKS ▼

## ADMINISTRATION & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

[Sac State Home](#)

[ABA Home](#)

[Recognition Program](#)

[Thank-you Blog](#)



# FOCUS

SUPPORTING STAFF PROFESSIONALISM AND SUCCESS  
VOL. 7 | ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2013

## MESSAGE FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



### Message from the Vice President

It is hard to believe that summer is coming to an end. Over the next few weeks, the campus community will begin to swell with activity as we kick off another academic year. With close to 8,000 incoming freshman and transfers expected this semester, there will be many new students out on the campus who will need our help. And I know I can depend on all of you to welcome and assist them.

The work that ABA has performed over the past few months is significant, and I want to thank you all for your contributions. Much has been accomplished, from landscape installations, facility improvements and emergency protocol drills to a successful financial close and allocation of the 2013 campus budget. Behind the scenes, many of you were involved in summer program arrangements and support. And more and more ABA units reached out to students this summer through the University's orientation program.

I hope you will enjoy this edition of the newsletter. Inside you will find photos of new and departing ABA staff, and colleagues who have been awarded division, department or external awards; the latest ABA Thank-You Blog postings; a feature spotlighting Interim Director of Environmental Health & Safety Steve Leland; news about recent initiatives, and highlights about ABA's informal activities, such as the summer bowling league, the ABA Cook-Off and much more. If you have not seen the ABA 2011-12 Annual Report of Accomplishments, I hope you will click on the link inside and take a look. It is focused on ABA staff professionals who were "Made at Sac State" as well as many of the year's staff award recipients, and staff and students involved in the report's showcased programs.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to the upcoming ABA Speaker Series event, which will take place on Thursday, September 19, from 10 to 11:30 in the Alumni Center. The featured speakers are our Public Affairs colleagues, Associate Vice President Jeannie Wong and Director Jack Vaughn, who have built the University's social media presence from the ground up in just over two years. A brief description is contained inside.

I realize that while our students and faculty have the advantage of a full summer break, most of you do not. However, I hope that you were able to balance your commitment to work with some well-deserved relaxation with family and friends. Thank you for your work over the summer! Please join me as we prepare to welcome students and faculty back to the campus for another exciting and productive year!

[Front Page](#)

[ABA News](#)

[Announcements](#)

[Awards & Recognition](#)

[Green News](#)

[Message From The VP](#)

[New Faces & Farewells](#)

[Staff Spotlight](#)

[Talents Abound](#)

[Thank You](#)

[Printable Copy](#)

ABA FOCUS  
Is Published By The  
Administration & Business  
Affairs  
Office Of Strategic Planning &  
Quality Improvement

California State University,  
Sacramento

PRESIDENT  
Alexander Gonzalez

VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO  
Ming-Tung "Mike" Lee

EDITOR  
Sarah Whyte

WEB EDITORS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

WRITERS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Bruce Clarke  
Joey Martinez  
Sam Parsons  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte



SACRAMENTO STATE

► My Sac State ► Contact ► Directories

ABOUT ACADEMICS ADMISSIONS ATHLETICS MAKE A GIFT QUICK LINKS ▼

## ADMINISTRATION & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

[Sac State Home](#)

[ABA Home](#)

[Recognition Program](#)

[Thank-you Blog](#)



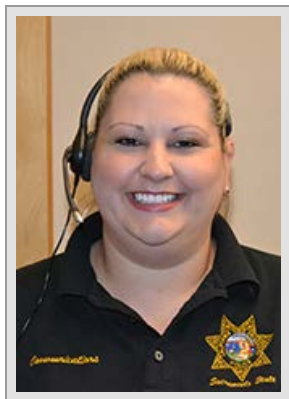
# FOCUS

SUPPORTING STAFF PROFESSIONALISM AND SUCCESS  
VOL. 7 | ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2013

## NEW FACES AND FAREWELLS

### New Faces

*ABA welcomes the following new staff professionals to the division. These new hires fill critical positions, and we welcome them to the ABA family.*



**Michelle Rowberry-Nogaj**  
Dispatcher  
Public Safety



**Natalya Sysa**  
Accounting Technician III  
Accounting Services



**Loc Vu**  
Accounting Technician III  
Accounting Services

### Farewells

*ABA says farewell to the following retirees and departing employees. Each represents many years of institutional knowledge. ABA would like to acknowledge the work of these dedicated employees and wish them well in their retirement and future endeavors.*

### Not pictured:

- Nathan Bagwill - Transportation & Parking Services
- David Prato - Facilities Services/Housing
- Joseph Sanchez - Facilities Services
- David Santos - Public Safety
- Bernadette Tano - Environmental Health & Safety

- Front Page
- ABA News
- Announcements
- Awards & Recognition
- Green News
- Message From The VP
- [New Faces & Farewells](#)
- Staff Spotlight
- Talents Abound
- Thank You
- Printable Copy

ABA FOCUS  
Is Published By The  
Administration & Business  
Affairs  
Office Of Strategic Planning &  
Quality Improvement  
California State University,  
Sacramento

PRESIDENT  
Alexander Gonzalez

VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO  
Ming-Tung "Mike" Lee

EDITOR  
Sarah Whyte

WEB EDITORS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

WRITERS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Bruce Clarke  
Joey Martinez  
Sam Parsons  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte



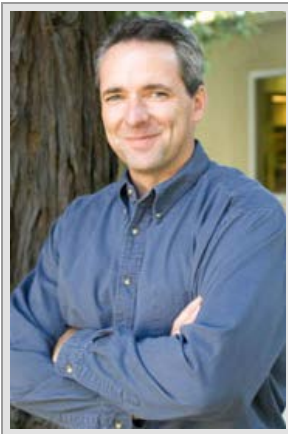
## ADMINISTRATION & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

[Sac State Home](#)
[ABA Home](#)
[Recognition Program](#)
[Thank-you Blog](#)


# FOCUS

SUPPORTING STAFF PROFESSIONALISM AND SUCCESS  
VOL. 7 | ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2013

## STAFF SPOTLIGHT



### Staff Spotlight with Steve Leland

*In each issue, the FOCUS Newsletter spotlights an ABA staff member whose work deserves mention. This edition explores ideas around "redefinition," asking how staff professionals have grown in their careers while working in ABA.*

**Name:** Steve Leland

**Position:** Interim Director, Environmental Health and Safety

**ABA Department/Unit:** Risk Management Services/Environmental Health and Safety

**How long have you been with Sac State?** I've been with Sac State since 2001.

**What are some examples of your daily duties?** I work closely with Facilities

Services and other departments when their tasks may impact asbestos or lead containing material or when other hazards are present. I also provide training to staff in a broad range of health and safety subject areas and conduct inspections to assure regulatory compliance.

**How has your job changed over time?** There are only three professionals working in the Office of Environmental Health and Safety who are responsible for compliance with various regulations and the health and safety of the campus community. Over the years, I've had responsibility for all programs in our department as personnel changed and new opportunities developed.

**How has your job influenced your professional growth?** Many professionals in my field work for state agencies or industrial facilities where their involvement in health and safety issues is limited to the products the facility produces or the specific regulations they are responsible for enforcing. At Sac State, there is such a broad range of occupations and potential exposures related to the work that's done here that it's given me the opportunity to gain experience that I wouldn't have had elsewhere.

**What certifications do you hold? What does it take to become certified, and how do you feel these qualifications benefit the campus?** I am a Certified Industrial Hygienist (CIH) and a Certified Safety Professional (CSP). To become a CIH through the American Board of Industrial Hygiene, you must have a minimum of a B.S. in science or engineering and five years of professional experience identifying, evaluating and managing stressors such as noise, heat, or chemical exposure that can cause illness or injury. In addition to the education and experience, there is an eight hour exam that must be completed. The CSP offered by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals has similar requirements but focuses more on occupational safety. The CIH is recognized in the EH&S field as an expert in the evaluation of potential exposures and there are instances, such as after a water intrusion event, that we would request the services of a CIH to perform proper sampling and evaluation. Rather than contracting with an outside consultant, we can complete that work in-house with me and Mike Christensen, who also holds the CIH certification.

[Front Page](#)
[ABA News](#)
[Announcements](#)
[Awards & Recognition](#)
[Green News](#)
[Message From The VP](#)
[New Faces & Farewells](#)
[Staff Spotlight](#)
[Talents Abound](#)
[Thank You](#)
[Printable Copy](#)

ABA FOCUS  
Is Published By The  
Administration & Business  
Affairs  
Office Of Strategic Planning &  
Quality Improvement

California State University,  
Sacramento

PRESIDENT  
Alexander Gonzalez

VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO  
Ming-Tung "Mike" Lee

EDITOR  
Sarah Whyte

WEB EDITORS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

WRITERS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Bruce Clarke  
Joey Martinez  
Sam Parsons  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte



**Who are your primary customers?** Environmental Health and Safety works for every department on campus but my primary customers are those with the most potential hazards, Facilities Services and the sciences.

**What are your biggest, yet most rewarding challenges?** We operate as consultants to the University to assure that our risk is minimized and we are in compliance with Cal/OSHA, EPA, State Fire Code, Radiologic Health Branch and numerous other agencies. Risk Management and EH&S does not simply tell departments or individuals “no you can’t do that” - we look for ways to manage the risk to an appropriate level so that work can proceed safely. When opportunities arise to help individuals or departments complete a project safely, within budget and in a timely manner, I find that very rewarding.

**What do you like best about your job?** There really isn’t a “typical” day on campus. It really is like a small city and there is a need for EH&S involvement in almost everything we do here.

**Why and how would someone contact you?** I’m called for everything from odor complaints to potential hazards or the need for Health and Safety training. If someone has a question about Environmental Health and Safety, I can be reached at x8-5174 or sleland@csus.edu.

**What does the new initiative "Redefine the Possible" mean to you?** We have an opportunity to promote Risk Management not only with the faculty and staff who we typically work with but also to the students who will encounter hazards that may be seen as roadblocks in their own careers. It’s important that we educate them on how to identify and manage those risks so that innovation is not impeded.



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO  
6000 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819  
(916) 278 - 6011

[Comments & Questions](#)   [A to Z Index](#)   [Accessibility](#)





# ADMINISTRATION & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

[Sac State Home](#)

[ABA Home](#)

[Recognition Program](#)

[Thank-you Blog](#)



# FOCUS

SUPPORTING STAFF PROFESSIONALISM AND SUCCESS  
VOL. 7 | ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2013

## ABA'S GOT TALENT!



### League Strikes Again

ABA's talented bowlers took on another season of play this year, challenging each other and a few outsiders to weekly matches. Organized by Serena Fuson, Public Safety, and promoted by the department, the league recently concluded its 2013 finale.

Capitol Bowl is where the action is, and bowlers have gathered there since the summer of 2012 to showcase their skills. Handicaps are de rigueur, as all but the most serious are there for the camaraderie. But no sandbaggers here.

ABA is reported to have some serious "scratch" bowlers (i.e., talent) on their side, but this year's champion was crowned, hailing from Intercollegiate Athletics. The team included: Gergana Avramova, Brock Bergstrom, Jennifer Bergstrom, Cheryl Boyes, Kylie Hurn, and Rose Welch.

If you are interested, keep an eye on your email inbox, as there are plans to put together a winter bowling league! Contact [Serena Fuson](#) for additional information.



### Best of Winners

Stacy Hayano, associate vice president of Budget Planning & Administration, prides herself on both her work and her prize-winning German Shepherd, Jackson.

Jackson has been awarded Best of Winners in two events this year, first in March, and most recently in August. Jackson has been competing since he was just a pup, around nine months old.

Competition for this title is tough. "There are Specialty shows that are sponsored by the various German Shepherd dog clubs which are highly competitive. The judges are usually former or current German Shepherd breeders who also show their dogs," said Stacy. "Then there are the All-Breed shows which have the various dog breeds shows going on throughout the day.

Typically, the judges for these shows are not German Shepherd breeders, but they are licensed to judge the breed as well."

- Front Page
- ABA News
- Announcements
- Awards & Recognition
- Green News
- Message From The VP
- New Faces & Farewells
- Staff Spotlight
- [Talents Abound](#)
- Thank You
- Printable Copy

ABA FOCUS  
Is Published By The  
Administration & Business  
Affairs  
Office Of Strategic Planning &  
Quality Improvement

California State University,  
Sacramento

PRESIDENT  
Alexander Gonzalez

VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO  
Ming-Tung "Mike" Lee

EDITOR  
Sarah Whyte

WEB EDITORS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

WRITERS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Bruce Clarke  
Joey Martinez  
Sam Parsons  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

Stacy enjoys not only showcasing Jackson, but the community aspect of shows as well. "I love watching the dogs going around the ring, studying their movement, hanging out with all the breeders I've gotten to know throughout the years. The people are really nice and it's fun talking about dogs with them." Good luck to Jackson in future competition!



## The Cake Artist

It takes a special kind of artist to enjoy having their work destroyed. Elena Larson is that kind. "I'm not the least bit sad to see it cut into. I want the recipient to be pleased, and I want it to *taste* good." This is, after all, a cake we're talking about, even though it could easily pass for ceramic sculpture.

Elena, assistant director of the Student Financial Services Center and Collections, has been decorating cakes, cupcakes and cookies for just four years now, but has always loved cooking and baking. She has one "beginner" class under her belt, but is mostly self-taught.

Elena has no plans to transition her hobby into a business. Although she does take requests for friends and family, "It is just for fun," she says. "I really enjoy the whole process. I like doing the research to come up with an idea, sketching out designs, and then creating something fun that is also edible!

Elena is a purist, using either cream cheese or buttercream frosting (no shortening), rather than the cake decorators Play-Doh called "fondant." Fondant is the perfectly smooth cake cover that you can do some really cool things with, but it doesn't have the rich flavor of a true frosting, according to Elena.

The beautiful piece above, crafted by Elena, was devoured at Tomoko Matsuda's retirement party in June.



## BBQ King is Two Time Champ

For the second consecutive year, ABA organized a BBQ cook-off which was held at the annual Spring Social. Contestants prepared BBQ chicken, beef tri-tip, or pork ribs, which were sampled by a panel of judges selected from among their fellow ABA colleagues.

Prizes are awarded to winners in each category, and to one grand-prize winner with the highest overall scores.

Public Safety's Police Chief Mark Iwasa placed first in the pork ribs category, and also took home the cook-off's grand-prize trophy for the second year in a row. The two-time winner was challenged by stiff competition this year, with several dishes scoring very high.

The ABA BBQ cook-off was such a success that it is scheduled to return next year. The question everyone is asking is - "Will anyone top the two-time winner next year!?" Alternative cooking-related competitions are being considered for other future ABA events. Stay tuned!



## Passing the Bar

In a [previous issue](#) of The FOCUS newsletter, we featured Public Safety's Nooria Kakar, highlighting her educational goals of earning a law degree. We wanted to update you on her progress. In June of 2012, Nooria graduated law school after attending classes part time for four years! After taking the bar exam in February, Nooria passed on her first attempt and was sworn in on June 5th, 2013!

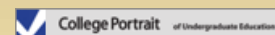
After having passed the bar exam and receiving her degree, Nooria is now a licensed California attorney! Congratulations Nooria!



SACRAMENTO  
STATE

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO  
6000 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819  
(916) 278 - 6011

[Comments & Questions](#)   [A to Z Index](#)   [Accessibility](#)



SACRAMENTO  
STATE[► My Sac State](#) [► Contact](#) [► Directories](#)[ABOUT](#) [ACADEMICS](#) [ADMISSIONS](#) [ATHLETICS](#) [MAKE A GIFT](#) [QUICK LINKS](#) ▼

## ADMINISTRATION & BUSINESS AFFAIRS

[Sac State Home](#)[ABA Home](#)[Recognition Program](#)[Thank-you Blog](#)

# FOCUS

SUPPORTING STAFF PROFESSIONALISM AND SUCCESS  
VOL. 7 | ISSUE 1 | SUMMER 2013

## THANK YOU



### ABA Says Thank-You

ABA hosts a Thank You Blog on its website to make it easy for staff to acknowledge support from colleagues and to recognize their work publicly.

Don't know what to say? You don't need to be elaborate - just a simple "thank you," an explanation of what was done and how much you appreciate it, is all that's needed.

In ABA, no Thank You goes unnoticed!

**To: Jayme Hunter** (8/23/2013)

I would like to thank Jayme for being absolutely wonderful! She is always ready to help out me, or anyone else in the Parking Office, whether they are faculty, staff or students. Jayme is the definition of a team player and lends her assistance and knowledge to her co-workers on a daily basis. Thank you Jayme. I don't know what we would do without you! -*Jesseca Sanchez*

**To: Kimberly Donnaville; Llamas-McKaughan;** (8/20/2013)

Kimberly and Priscilla, Thank you for being so patient with me! Coming back to the University after being away so long caught me off guard. You both have helped me so much! Thanks for making the transition easier -*Annette Karle*

**To: Facilities Grounds Department** (8/16/2013)

The Facilities Grounds Department deserves high praise for the outstanding job on the design and installation of new/upgraded landscaping on campus - all of it is beautiful. It is not easy to perform your normal daily duties and be involved in the extensive work that has been performed over the last six months or so, and still keep the campus grounds looking great. They deserve a Standing Ovation for their hard work. -*Stephen Scalley*

**To: Financial Services Teams & Staff - Accounting Services, Accounts Payable & Travel, Procurement Services, Student Financial Services** (8/16/2013)

Staff and Managers in Financial Services Areas: Great job for another successful Year-End close! -*Priscilla Llamas-McKaughan*

**To: Andrew Stiffler** (8/16/2013)

I would like to give my endless THANKS to Andrew for being a continual source of information, support and having a "Can Do" attitude about all the challenges we send his way! He has done a phenomenal job on the ABA webpages as our liaison with IRT, answering our many questions, providing options for changes and making excellent suggestions for improvements to our pages! Andrew has excellent skills and abilities that are a great advantage to ABA! He is a true strength for our quality improvement! -*Priscilla*

[Front Page](#)[ABA News](#)[Announcements](#)[Awards & Recognition](#)[Green News](#)[Message From The VP](#)[New Faces & Farewells](#)[Staff Spotlight](#)[Talents Abound](#)[Thank You](#)[Printable Copy](#)

ABA FOCUS  
Is Published By The  
Administration & Business  
Affairs  
Office Of Strategic Planning &  
Quality Improvement

California State University,  
Sacramento

PRESIDENT  
Alexander Gonzalez

VICE PRESIDENT AND CFO  
Ming-Tung "Mike" Lee

EDITOR  
Sarah Whyte

WEB EDITORS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

WRITERS  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

PHOTOGRAPHY  
Bruce Clarke  
Joey Martinez  
Sam Parsons  
Andrew Stiffler  
Sarah Whyte

**To: Michelle Bianco (8/15/2013)**

Michelle, Thank you your extra effort during the absence of Chris Wessendorf (Buyer II). While Chris was out on extended medical leave, your contribution at our busiest time of year was a benefit to both our department and the campus community. Your willingness to go above and beyond did not go unnoticed. I truly appreciate your cooperation. -*Dale Clack*

**To: Leah David (8/15/2013)**

Leah, Thank you for all your hard work during the absence of Chris Wessendorf (Buyer II). Your willingness to pitch in and provide assistance while he was out on extended medical leave at our busiest time of year was a huge benefit to our department and the campus community. Your hard work and dedication did not go unnoticed and I truly appreciate your willingness to go the extra mile. -*Dale Clack*

**To: Kristina Cullen (8/15/2013)**

I just wanted to say thank you for your tireless efforts in making sure our campus' elevators are safe. It seems like a task with a lot of ups and downs (pun intended), but it's easy to see that all the work you're doing is making our campus that much safer. I appreciate all your efforts! -*Joey Martinez*

**To: Doug Powers, Tony Mesa, Robert Daclan, Dale Knorr (August 2013)**

I just want to say thank you to all of you for helping to move so many heavy concrete trashcans around campus that will now be converted to recycle cans! You guys worked hard and the end result is that Sac State is a more sustainable campus for it! You guys rock! -*Joey Martinez*

**To: Lauren Garrett (August 2013)**

I've worked alongside Lauren for 2 years now, recently I've become really impressed with her positive attitude and work ethic. As our most junior member, she often inherits duties which can be less than interesting but I have never heard her utter a word of complaint. She also is an absolute machine in terms of cranking out work, including breaking our speed record for processing LCD. Lauren is a great coworker and I'm proud she is a member of our department! -*Norman Kwong*

**To: Stephen Scalley (August 2013)**

Thanks to Stephen Scalley for taking ownership of the landscaping around Sequoia Hall. Facilities Services re-prioritized the Sequoia and campus-wide landscaping issues because of you. Thanks for bringing this to our attention. The new landscaping look around campus has been noticed by many. We are getting kudos from the campus community because of it. You should know that we started it because of you. Thank you very much. -*Bena Arao*

**To: Andrew Stiffler & Sarah Whyte (July 2013)**

I'd like to send a special Thank You to Andrew Stiffler & Sarah Whyte for all their hard work and persistence with revamping the Reprographics & Mail Services websites. They look fabulous! We really appreciate all your hard work! -*Laura Lockett*

**To: Dave Heaphy, Brendan Barckley, Israel Vargas, Paul Skrinie, Thelma Matthews, Victor Vinson, Rajinder Dosanjh (June 2013)**

I would like to thank you all for getting your timesheet in earlier than usual so I can take my vacation without worrying about being able to submit payroll on time! I would also like to thank you for getting your staff's timesheets to me sooner than the deadline as well. It is very much appreciated! -*Suzanne Bracamonte*



CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO  
6000 J Street  
Sacramento, CA 95819  
(916) 278 - 6011

[Comments & Questions](#) [A to Z Index](#) [Accessibility](#)

