Spring FOCUS Newsletter

No longer under construction, your all new FOCUS Newsletter is here! Take a tour below and see what's new in ABA and more...



Message from Jonathan

In my last FOCUS message, I spoke of the importance of ABA's leadership on campus, and as the model administration and business organization for the entire CSU.

At the time I wrote those words I could have never envisioned that today, we would be up against one of our community's greatest challenges of recent time, and that our people and resources would be put up to this ultimate test.

I'm proud to say that we have not cracked. ABA is the green and gold standard thanks to all of you - the hardworking professionals that make up our nine families. In the history of the University's CFO Office I cannot image that she/he has ever had to rely upon their staff in so many unique ways, and under such extreme circumstances. I'm proud of our culture and work ethic, in the face of a public health emergency, that will ensure that our students and staff have a safe and beautiful campus to return to after the community bounces back. ABA's flexibility and resilience is more than I could have ever hoped for.

Our newly redesigned FOCUS Newsletter is an update of our major accomplishments, and a celebration of all the little things we do at work and in the community. It is also a snap shot in time of events from our recent past. Stay tuned for future issues of the FOCUS where we will reflect on more personal and professional stories from our ABA family during our response mode. In the meantime, please read along and be sure to let us know what you think.

Finally, on Friday, April 3rd I will be hosting an online All-Staff Professionals meeting to interact with all of you on a variety of topics, including our COVID-19 response. Details will be coming to you shortly on how you can engage. Until then, for all of the latest campus updates on COVID-19 and related issues, please continue to check in at <u>www.csus.edu</u>

THE ELCOME CENTER COMING SOON!



Actually, the "**W**" is in there if you look closely. It is being slipped into place with a satisfying click under the watchful eye of our Facilities Management team. Speaking of clicks, click <u>here</u> for more information on our new Welcome Center.

All joking aside, the Welcome Center is another stunning example of ABA's Master Plan execution, where additions and alterations are uniquely styled and welcoming.

Tony Lucas, Associate Vice President of Business & Administrative Services, and key contributor to the project, has this to say about our latest addition, "Our vision for PS5 and Welcome Center Project was to create a warm welcome for our campus visitors and potentials students as well as our campus community." I think we can all agree that the end result will be spot on!

FIRST DAY ON THE JOB EXCITEMENT!



No, we do not have a new ABA puppy, but come inside to meet our newest <u>ABA coworkers by clicking here</u> because they are just as cute!

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT SPRINGS INTO ACTION!



(From left to right) Front row: Feli Escobar, Clarita Casipit Second row: Johnny Yasay, Joey Martinez, Dominador Gaspar, Ely Yasay, Douglas Roberts Third row: Joey Martinez

ABA Mission Accomlished!

Zero Waste Event Team

With very little notice, this team came together to take on the daunting task of conducting a zero waste event for the 2019 Week of Welcome Back (WOW) BBQ, an event hosted by President Nelsen for new and returning students. An event must reach the goal of 90% diversion rate in order to be an official "zero waste event." There were between 4,700 - 6,000 attendees, and every single pound of waste was collected, and weighed and the various waste streams were documented. The result was 4,048 lbs. of waste that was diverted from the landfill. That's over two tons of material that was composted, recycled, and reused. By collecting organic waste, the campus' carbon footprint was reduced. Great job team! We all appreciate the outstanding customer service and protection of our campus resources. Learn more about WOW here

SAC STATE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Stingers up for our Sacramento State Police Department! Good Guys - 1, bad guys - 0

Sac State PD were honored at the CSU Board of Trustees' meeting with the "Unit Meritorious Medal," in recognition of their quick action in 2018 to stop and arrest a suspect who had had driven a hijacked school bus onto campus.

On August 17, 2018, a male driver was involved in a two-car vehicle collision on Highway 50 and fled the scene in a stolen CHP patrol car. The stolen CHP vehicle was driven onto Sac State campus and used to forcibly stop a school bus, with several students on board. After ordering the bus driver to surrender the bus, the suspect drove the stolen bus, with its passengers to the north entry of the campus near J Street where he was stopped by Lt. Christine Lofthouse, Sergeant Reinl, and the other Sac State Police Officers who had responded. After a brief physical struggle, the suspect was arrested for vehicle theft, car-jacking and 19 counts of kidnapping. The Police Dispatcher on duty that day was Sulamita Oliferchik, a full-time Sac State student. <u>Twitter</u>

Thank you, Sac State officers and staff for all that you do to keep our community safe!

HUMAN RESOURCES



Human Resources - An active part of Sac State's Anchor University Initiative

We have probably all heard the reference about Sacramento State being an Anchor University. But what does that look like in action?

As President Nelsen said in a Sacramento Bee article in 2018, "An

anchor university is the opposite of the Ivory Tower. It aims to connect its students, faculty, and staff with the community and, in turn, help build and heal that community, achieving lasting solutions and improvements through inclusive civic engagement."

On great example of ABA's contribution to the Anchor Institution is the work HR recently did in the local community. In an effort to introduce high school students to careers in higher education, a member of our Human Resources team, Matthew Kurtz, along with an admissions representative, spent a valuable morning at <u>Mira Loma High School's</u> education and career day. Matthew noted that, "juniors and seniors were very engaging and kept both of us very busy. Many appreciated learning about the concept of Student Employment in higher education."

It is safe to say that many of our area K-12 students receive ample information about attending college. However, Human Resources continues to see a need to inform our future students about how their local institution supports the community as an employer. Thank you to Matthew Kurtz and HR staff for continuously supporting the next generation of our Hornet Family!

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE & TRAVEL



Accounts Payable & Travel: Concur Team Focus of Efficiency Award Winners

The Concur Travel and Expense project was borne out of a shared interest in exploring ways to eliminate the paper medium involved in the travel process. The existing process created inefficient movement of documents throughout campus. Common issues were: lack of

transparency of where a transaction lay in the workflow, inconsistency around procedural compliance, the need to obtain approval before costs are incurred, and other resource constraints. Seven CSU campuses came together to identify necessary compliance measures, gaps in data needs, workflow criteria, and overall user experience to build a single instance of the Concur Travel and Expense platform. The result was the development of a web-based platform that ensures compliance with CSU travel procedures, expedites flow of transactions throughout campus, shortens approval and review time frames, and provides more fluid audit and payment cycles. Great job team. Please visit the Accounts Payable and Travel webpage here

UNIVERSITY PRINT & MAIL



Way to go University Print & Mail!

Tony Lucas had this to say about our very own UPM:

It seems like a newsletter doesn't go by without an opportunity to honor our amazing team at Unversity Print & Mail. The most recent coming in the form of a Golden Image Award from the Specialty Graphic Imaging Association (SGIA). The University Print team was

honored for their Parking Structure Theme Project as well as the Healthy Hornet Walking Path Project. Associate Vice President of Business & Administrative Services, Tony Lucas had this to say about his team: I'm proud of the <u>Print Shop</u> accomplishments and accolades – the awards are icing on the cake. These Industry Awards tell us what I believe we already know, and that is that our Print Team is a talented group of professionals working hard and smart to serve the Sac State community with creative and quality products/services. The Gold Awards [Parking Structure Theme Project and Healthy Hornet Walking Path] are well earned and I appreciate each of your individual contributions. Outstanding!



CalVet honors one of our own - VP/CFO Office's Frances Palu

If you haven't had a chance to meet the vivacious Frances Palu in the VP/CFO Office, now is your chance. Give her a call or email to congratulate her on a tremendous honor she recently received from CalVet. CalVet's mission is "to serve and honor all California veterans by connecting them and their families with their earned benefits through education, advocacy, and direct services.

Not only is Frances made at Sac State, she is also a veteran of the United States Navy. Throughout her career and education, she has been a devoted member of both her veteran community, as well as an active member of her local Asian Pacific Islander community. CalVet honored Frances for her leadership and advocacy and we are honored to work beside her.

Hard working ABA family member and friend, Frances had these words of wisdom and encouragement to share, "Without the military benefits, I definitely would not be in the position I'm in now – working in higher education and being a catalyst, an advocate, a leader, for the Asian Pacific Islander and veteran communities."

That's an amazing life story Frances and we are proud to have you on our team. <u>Official</u> <u>Press Release</u>

SUSTAINABILITY - INNOVATION AND CREATIVTY



Sac State bees have gone commercial as the sale of Hornet Honey was a huge success

ABA's Sustainability Team does tremendous things for our community, both internally and externally. Are you

interested in home grown honey harvesting? Check out an article and video <u>here</u>. Squirrels, coyotes, turkeys, and now honey bees, are making things happen here at Sac State!

FOCUS NEWSLETTER

The FOCUS Newsletter is a quarterly update of the great things we do in ABA

The FOCUS is a production of the Organizational & Learning Development Office. While we have been publishing the FOCUS for over 10 years, this is our



first transition to this digital format. We are interested in your feedback, as well as story submissions. Tell us what you think by sending us a message <u>here</u>, or submitting a story idea <u>here</u>. Let's be innovative and creative together!

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