# ABA FOCUS Newsletter Summer Edition

Your Summer FOCUS Newsletter is hot hot hot! Take a tour below and see what's new in ABA and more...



#### Message from Jonathan

Looking back a few months ago with the advent of summer in the distance, I didn't think we would be where we are today. Half a semester transitioned to online, our next semester also virtual, thousands of staff remote working, and a nearly empty campus. Entering our 20th week of our operational transition, and what feels like 15,000 Zoom meetings, I have to say – I welcome our Sacramento summer, even if I haven't quite gotten used to the heat.

While many departments on campus slow down over summer, some of our departments ramp up. While our

financial professionals dive deep into year-end, our facilities team members focus on deferred maintenance and classroom updates. As you can imagine, our Risk Management family is committed to 'return to campus' planning and implementing proactive measures to keep us safe as we slowly return. Regardless of where you sit today with all of these changes, we are all working through these times with resilience and perseverance.

The highlights you will see in this edition of the FOCUS Newsletter are focused on our greatest asset as an organization – our people. I hope you enjoy the recipes, construction highlights, the staff and department spotlights, and other fun facts about our diverse and engaged team members throughout our families.

One special area I would like to bring your attention to is our commitment to learning. Not only learning for your career development and skill building, but the learning we are all doing in response to the national outcry for social justice and anti-racism. I hope you will join me in welcoming our guest blog host this edition, Dr. John Johnson. Dr. Johnson is the Director of Inclusive Excellence Learning and shares his recommendations on relevant resources we can turn to for this learning. I stand as a committed ally to this work and vow to make progress in our commitment to build an anti-racist division and community.

I would also like to take the opportunity to encourage all of you to take time for your personal wellness. The campus has boundless resources for you and your family, most available year-round and many available 24 hours a day. One project a team in ABA has worked on is the <u>Virtual Calming Room</u>. This, along with the Information for Employees page, is an added feature of our Sac State homepage, where all of the COVID-19 related information can be easily accessed.

Kudos to everyone highlighted in this edition of the FOCUS and keep up the good work!



### THE WELCOME CENTER UPDATE

The Welcome Center team planned, coordinated and implemented a beautiful building project which culminated in a customer friendly, welcoming building at the entrance to the University.

The Welcome Center project combined a newly constructed Parking Structure with a planned Plaza and Welcome Center building to create an excellent impression for students, faculty, staff, prospective students and parents as well as visitors to Sacramento State.

The team was composed of Tania Nunez, Tony Lucas, Victor Takahashi, Jeff Dierking, Freddy Orozco, Camellia Sahm, Kevin Reddell (IRT), Bill Macriss (Student Affairs) Maggie Hansen (Student Affairs). Additional participants from ABA and Clark Pacific also contributed significantly.

#### EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION PROGRAM



# Congratulations to our Nominees and Winners in the 2020 Employee Recognition Award Program

The greatest resource of any organization is its personnel. In Administration & Business Affairs (ABA),

a division of over 400, establishing a sense of community is essential. ABA is committed to communication across the division whereby every employee's ideas are heard, and where common goals and values are shared. Learn more about our winners <u>here.</u>

#### FIRST DAY ON THE JOB EXCITEMENT!



Come meet our new ABA family here

#### DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS



# <u>Custodial Staff Working Hard & Grounds Team</u> <u>Making Impressive Improvements</u>



#### Procurement Team - Award Winner

ABA's Procurement Team is doing its part to be an anchor to the community and this wellearned award has found a home on the wall of their Modoc Hall offices among many others. <u>Read more...</u>

#### Kind words from your Police Department

It is our privilege to announce the University Police Department's Employee of the Quarter, Officer Nathan Rice, and Student of the Quarter, Community Service Officer (CSO), Sergeant Jeremy Mota. Tireless work ethics, professionalism and outstanding assets to the community. Read the full recognition <u>here</u>.

#### Tyler Harris, Risk Management

A hearty congratulations to Tyler Harris who recently completed his exam to become a Certified Industrial Hygienist. This is a wonderful accomplishment that comes with a combination of education, experience, and certification through examination. We are lucky to have so many qualified professionals within the ABA family. Congratulations, Tyler!



### Erik Skall, Facilities Management

In each issue, the FOCUS Newsletter spotlights an ABA staff member whose work deserves mention. In this edition, we focus on our Manager of Grounds & Landscape Services, Erik Skall.

He shares with us his thoughts about his role on campus, and how Facilities Management serves the campus community in this <u>informative Q&A.</u>



#### A MESSAGE FROM INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE LEARNING

# Inclusive Excellence as a Philosophy

Hello ABA! This is Dr. John Johnson with the Division of Inclusive Excellence. I am pleased to be able to offer some words to you all through the FOCUS newsletter. In my role as the Director of

newsletter. In my role as the Director of Inclusive Excellence Learning (IEL), I work with a number of folks in ABA on a



regular basis. For those in ABA who may be unfamiliar, the Division of Inclusive Excellence (IE) is charged with ensuring that Sacramento State's commitment to equity, diversity, and inclusion is embedded into the core functions and operations of our university. We work with a number of campus and community stakeholders to advance inclusion and cultivate a community that respects the dignity of all of its members. <u>Read</u> <u>more...</u>

# Campus Spotlight



#### **JUMP Bicycles**

With sadness in our heart, we bid a farewell to an old friend, the JUMP Bicycle. You may have noticed that the familiar orange, wait is that red, bright pink? I was never sure so let's call it red... those familiar red bicycles have ridden off the campus and into the sunset, as reported by KCRA <u>link</u>.

Tony Lucas, Associate Vice President of University Support Services, "UTAPS views BikeShare as a valuable service for the Sacramento State community. We will review the effectiveness of the JUMP BikeShare program and will consider implementing a new program after meeting with potential BikeShare partners."

Your writer, and conspiracy theorist, has a different idea about why JUMP left town... unpaid FOCUS Newsletter subscription.

Earthlings, what is this thing we call "Year-



# End?"

Our financial friends talk a lot of this Year-End and should we be afraid? For those outside of the world of finance, budget and accounting who have wondered what all the fuss is about, please <u>read this wonderful</u> <u>piece</u> from Jeanne Brewster.

### HUMAN RESOURCES



# Department Spotlight -Employment Services

The FOCUS Newsletter had an opportunity to spend some time with Employment Service's Mellonie Richardson, Director, Talent Acquisition.

We have a great deal of helpful information to share with you about the staff, services, hours, and

location.

Please join us to learn more about one of our newest family members and their commitment to you and the anchor university initiative by clicking here to <u>read more.</u>

#### RANDOM CUTE STUFF AND GETTING TO KNOW YOUR ABA FAMILY

Ever wonder what your coworkers watch on YouTube? Click here for some insight...

Yummy Recipes from your ABA Family



Strawberry Lemon Blondies - One Bowl Pound Cake - Mandarin Chicken Salad

## ORGANIZATIONAL & LEARNING DEVELOPMENT



# Organizational & Learning Development on the Move!

**Exciting Announcement!** To ensure organizational alignment and holistic human resource service, Organizational & Learning Development is now a part of the HR Family. The team has also moved to Del Norte Hall, 2005.

You can continue to contact Organizational Development at: <u>org-dev@csus.edu</u> and Learning and Development at <u>learn-dev@csus.edu</u>. The new website can be found <u>here</u>.

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