



ACADEMIC FEDERATION

Newsletter 2010

What is the Academic Federation?

Since 1968, the Academic Federation at UC Davis has worked to serve the needs of its members, and to represent them on matters of instruction, research, public service, and personnel. Such an organization is unique within the UC system. There are over 1,400 members in the Federation working in a rich diversity of roles, as reflected by more than 30 different types of positions in the Federation. Federation members make a significant contribution to the campus community in all areas of teaching, research, and service.

The Federation was started by Chancellor Jim Meyer to give a voice to the many academic personnel on campus who are not in tenure-track positions, a category that has significantly grown in size since the Federation was founded. Federation members who are Principal Investigators of research programs are responsible for a significant proportion of grant money that the University receives.

One of the key roles of the Academic Federation is to serve as a link between its members and the UC Davis administration. This link is provided by the work of Federation members who serve on a number of committees, many of which are held jointly with the Academic Senate. The Federation also is involved in organizing annual awards that acknowledge achievements in research, teaching, and distinguished service.

The Federation aims to:

- Increase its voice on matters of University policy, particularly those relating to Federation personnel
- Provide a voice for faculty on issues concerning the educational mission of the University
- Provide a supportive environment for members who primarily work in research
- Provide a campus-wide network for members primarily concerned with public service
- Establish policies to advance the professional development of its members
- Provide a forum so that members can voice any concerns

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Please visit the website: academicfederation.ucdavis.edu

Upcoming Awards Ceremony

The Academic Senate and Academic Federation are holding their awards ceremony on **Tuesday, May 11, 2010 in ARC Ballroom A**. Please RSVP to Bryan Rodman (brodman@ucdavis.edu; 530-752-3920). The Federation Award Winners are Koen Van Rompay for Excellence in Research and Mardena Creek and Bryan Enderle for Excellence in Teaching.

EXCELLENCE

in Teaching

[Bryan Enderle](#), a Lecturer in the Department of Chemistry, has received the Excellence in Teaching Award. Enderle earned a B.S in chemical and petroleum engineering at UC Berkeley and a Ph.D for chemical engineering at UC Davis. Since 2002, he has been a lecturer in the Department of Chemistry at UC Davis. He primarily teaches the large general chemistry classes for underclassmen. His scientific interests are in synthesis and characterization of organometallic catalysts. His educational interests are in developing more useful teaching methodologies and example chemical demonstrations to aid in student learning. Bryan also has completed graduate theological coursework and has an interest in systematic theology. Bryan Enderle believes that instructors need to be more real, more human toward students instead of just presenting information. Enderle is renowned for his entertaining teaching style, making things more simple to understand. Enderle's ability to connect with his students was recognized by his winning the 2003 ASUCD Excellent in Education Award.

[Mardena Creek-Michelson](#) has also received this year's Excellence in Teaching Award. Creek-Michelson received her B.A. from the University of Illinois and her M.A. and Ph.D. from Ball State University. A lecturer in the University Writing Program since 1988, she has taught a wide range of writing classes, served as Director of Composition, and presented writing workshops for students and faculty across the disciplines. During her years at Davis, she has received three Professional Development Awards, two to develop graduate-level writing instruction and support and one to create a peer tutoring program in writing. She finds teaching writing a demanding and inspiring profession, and is grateful for what all her students teach her.

in Research

[Dr. Koen Van Rompay](#) has received the Excellence in Research Award for his research into HIV and AIDS. After obtaining a degree in veterinary medicine, Van Rompay left his home country of Belgium and came to Davis in 1989 to study for his Ph.D, which he completed in 1994. Since then he has been working at the California National Primate Research Center. Van Rompay's work focuses on using primate models to better understand how HIV causes disease. His work encompasses developing strategies to both prevent HIV and to help treat people who are infected. This research also involves developing antiviral drugs and studying the effects of these treatments. Away from work, Van Rompay devotes time to managing Sahaya International, a non-profit organization that he founded. This organization supports a diverse range of programs relating to social, medical, and environmental issues in developing countries. Some of the activities of Sahaya International, such as raising HIV awareness, have direct connections to his research.



1989-1990 Prized Writing

Two Federation-Member Edited Publications Celebrate their 20th Anniversary

Prized Writing, edited by Pam Demory, is 20 years old. Every year, students from across the campus are invited to submit papers they've written for UCD undergraduate courses to the *Prized Writing* contest. In June, a group of volunteer faculty judges the submissions and the winners are published in a two-part anthology: *Essays and Scientific & Technical Writing*. The finalists are awarded Honorable Mention. Prize winners receive a cash prize, a certificate, a copy of the published book, and public recognition at the fall awards reception. The book is then sold at the UCD Bookstore and is used as a text in composition courses.



20th Anniversary Edition WOE

Writing on the Edge, edited by John Boe, an interdisciplinary journal focusing on writing and the teaching of writing, is aimed primarily at college-level composition teachers and others interested in writing and writing instruction. It is published at the University of California at Davis and appears two times a year--in spring and fall. The journal also turned 20 this year.

Demory and Boe are both Federation faculty in the University Writing Program.

Understanding the Benefits of Meditation

Cliff Saron, associate research scientist at the Center for Mind and Brain, is serving as Principal Investigator for the Shamatha Project, which received \$400,000 in extramural funding in 2009 to support its investigation of the benefits of meditation. Total extramural support exceeds \$2.2 million since 2006. The most comprehensive study of meditation to date, the Shamatha Project is a randomized, wait-list controlled study designed to discover how meditation affects basic processes that may underlie its known benefits.

As Saron explains, "Recent research suggests that meditation reduces stress, enhances well-being, and may help treat depression, eating disorders, substance abuse, and stress-related physical illnesses. Despite these many practical benefits, how meditation supports such changes remains largely unknown."

Through cognitive and perceptual tasks, emotional provocation, questionnaires, and physiological and biochemical monitoring, Saron and his team of researchers are assessing the effects of intensive meditation training. Results indicate that intensive contemplative training sharpens and sustains attention, enhances well-being, including physiological changes related to cellular aging, and leads to less judgmental, more empathic emotional responding to the suffering of others.

Follow-up data collection and analyses are ongoing. The project is funded through 2013 and has generated international interest, including Saron presenting project data to H.H. the Dalai Lama in Dharmasala, India.

James H. Meyer Distinguished Achievement Award

The James H. Meyer award recognizes distinguished career-long achievement by an Academic Federation member in meeting the responsibilities associated with the nominee's job title. A secondary, but important, consideration is service to the campus, the UC community, or state, regional, and national bodies. This award is presented by the Chancellor at an annual dinner and includes a stipend of \$1000.

The recipient, and current holder, of the 2009 award is Gary Sue Goodman, a lecturer in the UC Davis University Writing Program. Dr. Goodman came to UC Davis as a lecturer nearly 25 years ago and has been praised for helping develop the writing program that is now highly respected throughout the nation (the U.S. News & World Report ranks UC Davis as one of the 22 best colleges for teaching writing across disciplines). Goodman became director of the Composition Program in 2000 and then served as associate director of the newly established University Writing Program, before becoming assistant director for Writing Across the Curriculum. She is currently the mentor to the University Writing Program's writing minors, after working to establish the minor itself.

In her speech, Goodman spoke of the importance of fostering writing skills: "Establishing an independent writing program has greatly enhanced our ability to help faculty and students to improve writing across the curriculum – by hiring and retaining writing teachers skilled in teaching across the disciplines and professions, by offering the courses that students need and want, by developing a writing minor, and by creating workshops and courses for graduate students."

She also noted the contributions of the Federation to the University: "By having an Academic Federation – the only one in the UC system – Davis has a significant advantage over the other campuses. As James Meyer foresaw, official recognition of the role of non-tenured professional academics and an established federation voicing our interests improve support for our work, raise morale, and both permit and inspire us to participate in shared governance."

Michael Johnson, Chair of the Academic Federation, commended her service to the university by noting that her "career-long contributions to the mission of the University and her commitment to the campus community stand as an example to others and deserve the highest recognition." Dr. Goodman received her award in the presence of Chancellor Katehi and Federation colleagues at a special award dinner in November.

See 38th Annual Call for Nominations...Next Page

List of Past Recipients

Robert B. Ball (Cal Crop)
Eugene L. Begg (LAWR)
Lester J. Berry (A&RS Ext)
Anthony T.W. Cheung (Med: Pathology)
L. Peter Christensen (Vit & Enol Ext)
Beecher Crampton (A&RS)
Jere Curry (Physical Education)
Pam Gill-Fisher (Physical Education)
John S. Glenn (Vet Med Ext)
Melvin George (Plant Sciences)
Barbara Goldman (School of Education)
Gary Goodman (University Writing Program)
James Grieshop (H&CD)
Andrew G. Hendrickx (CPRC/H Anat)
James E. Hill (A&RS)
Carole L. Hom (Evolution & Ecology)
Linda R. Hughes (ICC)
Gordon L. Huntington (LAWR)
Margaret Johns (School of Law)
A. Daniel Jones (Fac. for Adv. Instrument)
Jane A. Kimball (Shields Library)
Judith M. Kysh (CRESS Center)
Charles Lacy (UCD Extension)
Thomas F. Leigh (Entomology)
Sherman Leonard (Food Science & Tech)
William M. Longhurst (Zoology)
Edmond C. Loomis (Vet Med Ext)
Armand Maggenti (BioSci/Nematology)
Preston Marx (CPRC)
Katherine Mawdsley (Library)
Martina Newell-McGloughlin, (Biotech. Pro)
Marilyn Olmstead (Chemistry)
Kevin P. Roddy (Medieval Studies)
Eric Schroeder (Summer Abroad and UWP)
James L. Sochor (Physical Education)
Noel Sommer (Pomology)
Harry O. Walker (LAWR)
Sue Williams (Intercollegiate Athletics)
Frank Zalom (Entomology)

38th ANNUAL CALL FOR NOMINATIONS 2010 James H. Meyer Distinguished Achievement Award

QUALIFICATIONS: The award is conferred in recognition of an individual's distinguished career-long contributions to the mission of the university and a commitment to the campus community. Specific service to the Academic Federation is desired, but is not required. A nominee must be a current member of the UC Davis Academic Federation and have been a member for at least five years. Past recipients are not eligible, but previous nominees are eligible.

NOMINATIONS: All members of the University community – Academic Federation, Academic Senate, students, and staff – are invited to nominate a member of the Academic Federation for this award. The nominee's activities as a member of the Academic Federation should be described in the nomination letter, although specific service on Federation committees is not required.

The nomination must include the following:

1. A current CV, including complete lists of publications and contributions to university and public service
2. A brief statement, not more than three pages, outlining the achievements of the candidate
3. Nominator's name and contact information

DEADLINE: Nominations must be sent electronically to nkilpatrick@ucdavis.edu in the Academic Senate Office by 5 pm – Friday, May 14, 2010.

For more information, please contact Nancy Kilpatrick, (530) 752-2220 or via email at nkilpatrick@ucdavis.edu.

Have announcements or accomplishments to include in the next newsletter? Send them to Karma Waltonen, kjwaltonen@ucdavis.edu



Academic Federation Professional Development Award

The deadline for spring application submission of Academic Federation Professional Development Award for lecturers (non-Unit 18 AF members) is May 3, 2010 to the Vice Provost – Academic Personnel.

Non-Unit 18 AF members are eligible to submit applications for AF Professional Development awards for 2010-2011. The application instructions and cover sheet are posted on the Vice Provost-- Academic Personnel Web site at: <http://academicpersonnel.ucdavis.edu/awards%20main%20REVISED.htm>

Deans' offices should transmit the applications and supporting material to the Office of the Vice Provost – Academic Personnel by May 3, 2010.

Helping the State Go Green

John Knezovich, Adjunct Professor in the Department of Environmental Toxicology and the director of UC's Toxic Substances Research & Teaching Program, is currently serving as the principal investigator on a \$613K project funded this year by the State of California's Department of Toxic Substances Control. As Knezovich explains, "The project aims to tap expertise throughout the UC system to develop comprehensive strategies that foster the implementation of green chemistry principles." Green chemistry is a fundamentally new approach to environmental protection, transitioning away from managing toxic chemicals at the end of the lifecycle, to reducing or eliminating their use altogether. The current award harnesses faculty expertise at Davis, Berkeley, Irvine, Riverside, and Los Angeles and is directed toward developing green chemistry curriculum and pollution prevention strategies.

Federation Mentoring Program

If you belong to the AF and wish to become a mentor to a new AF faculty member, please contact me, Mike Johnson (mbjohnson@ucdavis.edu), and we will put you in touch with new AF faculty. If you are a new AF faculty and do not currently have a mentor but would like one, please contact me and we will find a mentor for you.

The Academic Federation suffers from several problems, the most difficult of which is that many AF members do not even know they are part of the Federation. Unless covered by a collective bargaining agreement, when hired, many new AF personnel are put to work but not provided with any information about the campus, the Federation, or any of the policies or processes that will govern their careers. The UCD and UC Academic Personnel Manuals are daunting to read even if AF personnel know they exist.

Academic Senate faculty are provided the resources necessary to guide them through the personnel process as well as acquaint them with the campus and all it has to offer. Many of these resources are provided by AS faculty mentors, usually members of a new faculty member's department, who provide information and guidance. The AF has not provided similar support to their fellow members for a number of reasons, including: 1) there are usually only a few AF members in individual departments, 2) AF members are often precluded from participating in departmental business, and 3) they tend to hold positions that are not understood by Academic Senate faculty on campus. Consequently, AF faculty tend to become isolated. As a result, AF members are frequently at a disadvantage regarding personnel actions, and they tend not to participate in committees within the Federation or shared governance within the University.

In response to these issues, the Academic Federation Executive Council initiated a mentoring program during the winter quarter. Members of the AFEC selected names from the list of new AF personnel and contacted them, offering to provide the new employees with information about the campus and the AF. It is hoped that even with a small start, more AF members will become better acquainted with the campus, the Academic Federation, and the personnel process.

Research Title Workshop Registration Open

On Monday, May 17, 2010, the Office of Vice Provost-Academic Personnel, in cooperation with the Academic Federation and the School of Medicine, will host a workshop designed to provide an informative overview and update on academic personnel policy and procedures. This half-day workshop is intended for Academic Federation members in research series whose dossiers are reviewed by the AF/AS Joint Personnel Committee (JPC). This session will be especially helpful for those who are preparing their dossiers for the 2010-11 review cycle. Personnel officers and others involved in the handling of these dossiers are strongly encouraged to attend.

Please note: This workshop will not cover the personnel process for Academic Federation members covered by an MOU.

In order for us to accommodate the concurrent sessions, you must register to attend. To register, please send the following information to Jo Anne Boorkman (jaboorkman@ucdavis.edu) by no later than May 11, 2010: Name; Academic Federation series title; Department; Email Address; Phone number.

The general session will include the following: An overview of the Office of the Vice Provost-Academic Personnel and Web-based resources; An outline of the academic personnel review process and description of possible actions; A summary of the review stages for a dossier; A review of the Academic Federation personnel committees' review and deliberation process.

CHECK LIST FOR MERITS AND PROMOTIONS

Please Visit

<http://academicpersonnel.ucdavis.edu/forms/forms.cfm#checklists>

July-December 2010 Travel Grants

Grant applications for travel between July 1, 2010 through December 30, 2010 are **due by 5:00 p.m. Friday, May 21, 2010.**

Be advised that the Academic Federation Committee on Research has changed the application process to use the limited budget more effectively and to maximize the number of awards given across AF titles and disciplines.

A brief reminder of the criteria for AF Travel Grants: Regardless of the type of travel (domestic or international), the maximum grant award is \$800. All Academic Federation members are eligible. Priority will be given to those with Principal Investigator (PI) status. Grants may be awarded annually depending on the availability of funds.

It is important that you follow the instructions when completing the application. If you need more information, please contact Kimberly Pulliam, staff analyst, via email at kapulliam@ucdavis.edu or phone 752-4918.

For more awards and grants, please visit:
academicfederation.ucdavis.edu/awards.cfm