



Staff Tracks



Online at: <http://fp.arizona.edu/sac>

May 2006

First SAC Crossroads Conference a Success



We want to thank all you who participated in the First SAC Crossroads Conference held March 17, 2006. Based on a summary of comments taken from your evaluations, and in spite of all the challenges we faced, the conference overall was a huge success.

Planning the conference throughout the year was a learning experience for all of us since we had no prior history to compare to and no prior experience in planning such a huge event. We faced many challenges and learned many things while planning it and, as we prepare for next year's conference, we will work hard to implement the necessary changes to accommodate the needs and requests made on the evaluation sheets. We will work hard this coming year on building another exciting and enchanting conference.

Many things were taken into consideration while planning the conference. We wanted to provide staff with an array of information in areas of education, career, family and social issues. Since we all face decisions in each one of these areas on a daily basis, we decided to have representation on each one of them. The breakout session topics were superb, presenters hosting them were knowledgeable, skilled in their respective areas of expertise, and kept your attention while dispersing a wide-array of information.



Staff Advisory Council member Randy Livingston of Facilities Management.

Our Keynote Speakers were inspirational, and motivational. President Likins' main message was to learn to balance all those areas of our lives that demand our attention early so we don't have to struggle as challenges present themselves before us. Cathy Nicholson showed us how we can achieve balance by learning from the lives and experiences of others who have gone before us. She taught us to remember the simple things in life so we can conquer the challenges we face. She showed us the importance of taking time to LAUGH and taking time to enjoy life!

We need you to become part of the Conference Planning Sub-Committee. You do not need to be a council member to help with the conference planning. Please contact us and be a part of our team. We need especially staff who are knowledgeable in computer equipment.

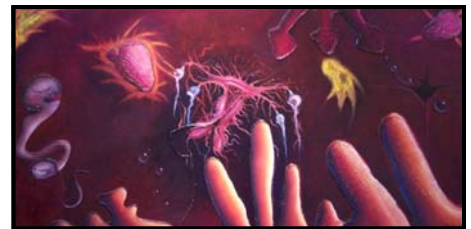
We hope you will be eager to attend next year's conference and we hope you continue to show your support with everything the Staff Advisory Council does on behalf of every UA Classified Staff employee.

Thank you,

Lupita Cruz, Chair
Activities Committee

On Our Own Time Art Exhibit, 2006

The University of Arizona, Staff Advisory Council presented the "On Our Own Time" art exhibit in the Student Union Gallery. Many works were presented and enjoyed by the campus community. Read more about it on page 2 and get ready to enter your own work in next year's exhibit.



Endometriosis type N, by Bettsy Garcia-Montijo, Molecular and Celular Biology.



My First Apartment in New York, by Desiree De La Mater, Enrollment Management.

On Our Own Time Art Exhibit, 2006

by Susan L. Miller



The University of Arizona annual Staff Art Exhibit showcases largely untapped talent. On display in the Student Union Memorial Center 3rd Floor Gallery until April 20th, the 61 works stem from 38 people who generally work behind the scenes in colleges and departments across campus. Ranging from intensely personal pieces to straightforward social commentary, the entries explore emotions and our shared human experience.

Melissa Kramer's entry won first place in photography. Kramer created "She Outgrew Them but Could Never Fill Them," in collaboration with her husband. The photo honors his aunt who committed suicide in her thirties. "She was a beautiful, accomplished and privileged young woman, so her death has always been a mystery," Kramer said. "The red shoes are hers and the title refers to all the expectations that were put on her...I think the piece speaks about all the different expectations people put on each other," said Kramer.

Barbara Lopez' "Still Life" explores dramatic light and dark values. This was the first piece she ever entered in competition. She said, "I thought displaying my art would give me more confidence and I wanted to see how it would be evaluated alongside other amateur artists." She was thrilled to receive the second place ribbon for painting.

Remo Williams' "Zen Box" won third place for sculpture. He said: "Through my art I am able to best express who I really am." As an engineer, Williams lives primarily in an exacting world of 1's and 0's. He said of his sculpting, "at its heart, the process is extremely primitive technologically, and rather primal in nature. To stand next to a roaring furnace melting metal at 2,000 degrees Fahrenheit and watch that molten metal pour, then solidify, is an amazing event that can move even the most stagnant of souls."

Williams' works are the essence of dichotomy. "Zen Box is meant as a meditative piece, an interplay between light and dark, air and metal, fluid and solid, and ultimately about convergence in a seemingly divergent desert." In



Take My Hand, by Bruce M. Vaughan, Real Estate Administration

"Saguaro Papoose" his second bronze cast sculpture, Williams interprets the mother-child relationship, a reflection on the dichotomy of separation and bond..."

Take a free lunch hour to check out these works of art from your colleagues. You can also check them out online at http://fp.arizona.edu/sac/emp_recognition/onourowntime/index.html.

Mixed Media

1st Place: "Pincushion 1.5" by Danielle Embry from the School of Art

2nd Place: "Hand of Salvation" by Norman Cushing from Steward Observatory

3rd Place: "Pray - Prey" by Joseph Beals from Fine Arts Administration/Tech Services



Late December, by Stephanie Sikora, College of Medicine.

Sculpture

1st Place: "Take My Hand" by Bruce M. Vaughan from Real Estate Administration

2nd Place: "Dancer" by Nancy Pohanic from KUAT Communications Group

3rd Place: "Zen Box" by Remo Williams from the Lunar & Planetary Lab

Photograph

1st Place: "She Outgrew Them but Could Never Fill Them" by Melissa Kramer from the Office of Research and Contract Analysis

2nd Place: "Shroud" by Maria Schuchardt from the Lunar & Planetary Lab

3rd Place: "Untitled" by Suzanne Hunter from Chemistry



The Diners, by Jennifer Evers, Lunar & Planetary Lab

Painting

1st Place: "Sing a Song of Sixpence" by Jennifer Evers from the Lunar & Planetary Lab

2nd Place: "Still Life" by Barbara Lopez from the College of Law

3rd Place: "My First Apartment in New York" by Desiree De La Mater from Enrollment Management

Best of Show "Endometriosis Type N" by Bettsy Garcia-Montijo from Molecular and Cellular Biology



Wildcat Family Spirit Award

Compiled by Robert Perrill, Research Specialist, Sr., Valley Fever Center

The Wildcat Family Spirit Award was developed in response to employees wanting to show their appreciation for fellow employees and others for exemplary customer service, innovative improvements, outstanding performance or for fostering diversity, creativity or cooperation.

Hermelinda Tow

Hermelinda has always been willing to do whatever it takes to get the job done and more. On top of her many custodial duties, she assists me with the set up of meeting rooms and is my right hand person in the kitchen at MAC with prep-ping, cooking and serving the many meals with offer to clientele at our facility. She also does all the clean up following these meetings. After the tsunami, the Maricopa Agricultural Center decided to hold weekly lunches for the employees to raise money for tsunami relief. Hermelinda was tireless in her efforts on this behalf. She not only assisted each week with the planning and preparation of the lunches, but she personally provided and prepared the delicious Mexican buffet for 60 persons. After approximately 10 weeks, over \$1800 was raised for the tsunami relief. Hermelinda is always there to assist everyone with whatever their needs are. She does so with a smile on her face and a happy heart. Thank you Hermelinda for your cooperation, outstanding performance and exemplary customer service!

Hermelinda Tow came to the UA in 1992 after a friend told her about an open position at the Maricopa Agricultural Center (MAC). MAC is a unit of the Arizona Agricultural Experimental Station located at Maricopa, AZ, where she is the Lead Custodian. Her parents taught her to have a positive attitude about self and if she tries, she can do it. To influence others, she shares this

belief and by being kind and honest with a smile and a hello to all. She always wanted to be a missionary, she trained as a Sunday school teacher and now she and her husband minister at Ak-Chin Bible Church in Maricopa. She enjoys arts and crafts, crocheting, reading, and teaching children of all ages to work with their hands to keep minds busy and healthy. She also enjoys

classical music and has used it to calm her own children when things got out of hand. Yes, she has children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren. Hermelinda states, "My job at MAC has been full of joy, my years have passed very fast. All the people I have worked with and work with have been truly nice and kind."

Claudia Arias

Claudia went above-and-beyond the call of duty to assist an alum who was experiencing difficulties conducting a job search due to health problems and financial difficulties. Claudia encouraged and suggested options to this alum which were a great benefit to her and opened up new direction to her life. This was not an isolated incident for Claudia as she assists many, many students in her warm, generous and caring manner.

Claudia Arias started working as a cashier in the UA Bookstore in 2000 for "fall rush." Two years later she became an Administrative Secretary in Career Services. This year she won the Wildcat Family Spirit Award. She always wanted a job helping others and she came to the University of Arizona with many years of customer service experience and is still helping people in Career Services. She was

influenced by her grandmother, her parents, and many celebrities and public officials that fought for equal rights. When asked about areas important to her at the University of Arizona, her answer was, "All areas of the university are important to me, especially when staff, faculty, and students get involved for a good cause." And she said, "Working together will make our workplace more enjoyable." She would like to

hear students say how much assistance they receive throughout campus. Claudia volunteers at the South Tucson Police Department and she enjoys walking, baking, and working or coordinating fund raisers. She has been married for fifteen years and has two children, fourteen and seven years old, and a six month old German short-hair pointer.

To request a certificate, visit our website at http://fp.arizona.edu/sac/certificate_of_appreciation.html

UA Wildcat Pride/Legislative Reception



On February 8, 2006, 450 alums, parents, faculty, staff and students demonstrated their version of 'Wildcat Pride' to 28 State Legislators at the Wyndham Hotel in Downtown Phoenix. The evening was a huge success!

SAC Needs YOU

The University of Arizona Staff Advisory Council exists to foster and enhance communications between classified staff and the University community; to provide a forum for discussing and defining the role of classified staff in the University; to represent and advocate their concerns within the University community and statewide; to serve as a resource for inquires and requests; to advise and make recommendations on existing and proposed University policies and procedures; and to ensure inclusion of classified staff on University committees. SAC is composed of 24 to 42 members who advise the University Administration regarding staff concerns. Since many of these issues are related to personnel policies (eg. Benefits, pay, employment practices), SAC interacts closely with the Human Resources department, as well as other departments on campus. Council members also serve on various University Committees.

Apply online today at:

<http://fp.arizona.edu/sac/membership.html>

But I Didn't Drink the Water!!!!

Summer is fast approaching as is the field research season. To those of you going overseas for your project research, please take a few minutes to check out the CDC's Travelers' Health website located at <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/>. Based on your destination

country, you may want to take extra precautions to guard your health. If you have any questions, please contact the Campus Health Service Immunization Office at 621-2292. Have a healthy summer!!

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA®
Staff Advisory Council
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