

UCSD Hispanic Staff Association celebrates tenth anniversary

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The Hispanic Staff Association at the University of California, San Diego will mark its tenth anniversary on March 13 with a celebration from 4 to 7 p.m. at La Casa at Third College.

Commemorating the event with resolutions from local and state governing bodies will be San Diego Mayor Maureen O'Connor, Councilwoman Celia Ballesteros, County Supervisor Brian Bilbray, State Assemblyman Pete Chacon and a number of other legislators. Also in attendance will be representatives of the Chicano Federation, the Barrio Station and the MAAC Project.

Joyce Justus, director of educational relations for the University of California, and HSA founding president Nick Aguilar will give a historical overview of the Association. Vice Chancellor Steve Relyea and HSA co-founder Chato Benitez will speak on Hispanics at UCSD today and the current status of the Association, and Chancellor Richard C. Atkinson will talk about the future of Hispanics at UCSD.

Plaques will be presented by Assemblyman Chacon to William D. McElroy, chancellor when the Association was founded, and to Chancellor Atkinson.

According to Brophy, HSA was created "in response to a need for advocacy, training, motivation, and other services by the Mexican, Chicano and Hispanic staff employed at UCSD. When the Association was founded these employees primarily were found in entry level and unskilled positions with few opportunities for upward mobility."

Today HSA numbers over 700 members and sponsors workshops, monthly meetings, a job placement and promotion network, a newsletter, achievement awards, advocacy regarding staff hiring and career development policies, and volunteer opportunities in the community.

Attendance at the Tenth Anniversary celebration is limited to HSA members and their guests.

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