

June 12, 2008

Dear Colleagues:

I am pleased to announce the appointment of David J. Ernst at the University of California Office of the President as chief information officer and associate vice president for systemwide information technology. David will begin work with us no later than July 28.

David comes to us from the California State University system, where he has served for 13 years, most recently as chief information officer and assistant vice chancellor for information technology services. His responsibilities in that position have involved coordination, support and oversight for the systemwide academic, administrative and communications technology activities across the CSU system's 23 campuses. He has been the driving force behind implementation of an integrated technology strategy for the system, and he has held responsibility for the development of large-scale information technology initiatives.

David has a number of connections to the UC system. He is an alumnus, holding both a bachelor's degree and a law degree from UC Davis. From 1989 to 1993 he served as assistant vice chancellor for information technology services at UC San Francisco. And from 1976 to 1981 he served as assistant vice chancellor for administration at UC San Diego. He also spent a number of years heading administrative information systems at Stanford University and working as a managing associate for Coopers & Lybrand LLP, consulting with clients in higher education on information technology projects.

As chief information officer and associate vice president, David will head the department of Information Resources and Communications (IR&C) at the Office of the President. This department provides leadership and systemwide coordination for a wide range of information technology activities across the UC system and at the Office of the President. The department's activities will be increasingly important to the University as we look to improved information systems to help address many of our strategic institutional priorities. David brings the experience and vision necessary to lead this critical operation.

In assuming this position David succeeds Kristine Hafner, who is retiring after several years of committed, energetic leadership on behalf of IR&C. I want to take this opportunity to thank Kris once again for her distinguished service to the University and to wish her well in retirement.

Please join me in welcoming David back to the University of California.

Sincerely,

Katherine N. Lapp
Executive Vice President
Business Operations