FAQ on re-establishment of campus phone service for faculty in HArCS and DSS

What’s the gist of this project?
In fulfillment of a recently announced campus commitment, faculty in the Division of Humanities, Arts and Cultural Studies, and in the Division of Social Sciences, whose phone service was discontinued to address budget reductions, may now choose to have a campus phone re-established at no additional cost to their department this fall.

When will this happen?
The deans’ offices of HArCS and DSS have been collecting lists of their eligible faculty who want campus phones. The Communications Resources unit of Information and Educational Technology is working with HArCS and DSS to install the requested phones in October. IET will coordinate the work with the departments, using its standard procedures.

What kind of phones are these?
The phones installed this fall are analog models. The installation includes instructions on the models’ features.

Do I have to accept a phone, if I don’t want one? If I accept a phone, do I have to accept voicemail?
HArCS and DSS faculty who do not want a phone do not have to accept one. Faculty who accept a phone may decline the voicemail option if they wish. Faculty who do not want an office phone should give their department a phone number where they can be reached, plus information on how messages can be relayed to them. (This second part still applies if a faculty member accepts a phone but declines voicemail.)

I would rather use a different phone. Will the campus pay for it?
The campus will provide a standard phone and basic service as part of this installation. Anyone who wishes to use a different phone service is responsible for paying for that service. HArCS and DSS received a central funding allocation to address the expense of providing these phones, and received this allocation as part of the budgetary process.

Once the phone is installed, if I have questions, whom should I contact?
Faculty in HArCS and DSS who have questions about their phones after they are installed should contact their authorized telecommunications representatives (ATRs). Find a directory at http://cr.ucdavis.edu/commsrv/voice/atrsearch/search.cfm. Additional information can be found at myphone.ucdavis.edu, and for a user’s guide, go to: http://cr.ucdavis.edu/commsrv/voice/voice.cfm

I understand the campus is moving toward a new way of paying for phones.
Correct. The campus is moving toward a January 2016 change in the way units pay for phone service. Specifically, the campus plans to implement a new cost recovery practice that would eliminate most of the administratively burdensome voice recharge billings by line, instrument, or service. Instead, the proposed methodology would recover the cost of most voice services through a Common Good Assessment (CGA). Possible assessment methodologies are under consideration by campus stakeholders. General fund resources currently used to subsidize voice services would be redistributed to Deans and Vice Chancellors to ensure that units, at the dean/VC level, will not pay more for voice services than they did under the recharge model. This proposal is currently under discussion with campus stakeholders. For more information, please see the Common Good Assessment website.

If I have questions about the Common Good Assessment, whom do I contact?
If the CGA website does not answer your questions, you may contact Anissa Nachman, director of Administrative Budget and Budget Operations in Budget & Institutional Analysis, at acnachman@ucdavis.edu or 530-752-2403.