The Physical Plant Department (PPD) has partnered with UNM’s Continuing Education Custom Training and Employer Services to bring a computer basics class, taught in Spanish, to the employees of PPD. Beginning in March, 12 PPD employees began an eight-week course taught by instructor, Jonice Tovar. They met twice a week to learn skills such as how to turn on a computer and operate a mouse, to learning how to check their UNM email, get their paycheck stub off of MyUNM, and how to access Human Resources (HR) communications.

Daniel Perea, manager of PPD’s Work Control, attended each class to assist the teacher mainly because he understands the positive impact these classes can have on employees’ lives.

“A lot of our employees have never learned to use a computer, and so much of the information shared in this class will help them to improve their skills for work, but also in their personal lives,” Perea said.

One student, a custodian for PPD’s Main Campus Custodial Services named Maria Aguilar De Perez, was intimidated to take this course because she didn’t know anything about computers.

“I was nervous on that first day because I didn’t know anything about computers, but the instructor was very patient and took her time to help us understand every step along the way,” said Aguilar De Perez.

Tovar covered a lot of material in the class: how to use the internet to find information, set up a Gmail account and send email, build a PowerPoint presentation, and tips for Facebook and YouTube. All students partnered up at the end of the course and gave a brief presentation to the class using PowerPoint.

Aguilar De Perez presented on how to use commercial vacuums with fellow student Martha Mata-Mendez from HSC Custodial Services.

“I really enjoyed using the keyboard and typing! This class gave me confidence in my ability to use a computer. I hope to take another computer class in the future,” said Aguilar De Perez.

Aguilar De Perez has already seen the benefits of being comfortable on a computer and how it can be an efficient tool for her personal life.

“I was recently waiting to check in for an appointment, and was able to bypass the line of people because I could check in on a computer. It saved me a lot of time,” she said.

PPD is currently holding an English computer basics class, and hopes to hold another Spanish course this Fall.

Maria Aguilar De Perez is a custodian with PPD Main Campus Custodial Services who primarily services the Physics & Astronomy Building, the Service Building, Telecommunications, and the Grounds & Landscaping buildings. She has been an employee with PPD for about eight years, and enjoys working with Custodial Services team.
UNM Commuters can now charge their electric vehicles (EV) at two charging stations on Main Campus

by Rachel Stone

Electric cars may be the wave of the future for commuters, and The University of New Mexico (UNM) wants to encourage and support consumers who choose this new technology for their automobiles. Two ChargePoint® Level 2 Commercial Charging Stations have been installed on the UNM Main Campus; one on the forth level of the Cornell Parking Structure, and one on the first level of the Yale Parking Structure. Each charging station can connect to two vehicles at one time.

Last year, Parking & Transportation Services (PATS) and David Penasa, manager in the Physical Plant Department (PPD) Engineering & Energy Services, submitted an application to the UNM Green Fund with the hope of receiving $20,000 in funding to install these EV charging stations. The application was approved because the project was in-line with the mission of the fund: to facilitate long-term sustainability initiatives to both the UNM infrastructure and education.

“The new electrical vehicle charging stations on campus illustrates UNM’s commitment to sustainability in two ways. First, they were paid for out of the Green Fund, and second they support the use of alternative transportation to campus,” says Mary Clark, manager of The Office of Sustainability.

Once these funds were awarded, PATS and PPD Engineering & Energy Services got to work to select the right equipment and location to support EV commuters on UNM’s Main Campus.

“PATS is very happy to have the opportunity to collaborate with a fellow UNM department (PPD), and as a result to be able to offer this new service to customers,” says Barbara Morck, director of PATS.

This is one of many “green” initiatives offered through PATS. Users of the EV stations will not be required to purchase the electricity used to charge their vehicles, but should expect to pay normal parking rates ($1 per ½ hour; max of four hours).

“The software associated with the charging stations allows us to track usage, the number of charges, and the amount of energy used per charge. This will enable us to determine UNM’s level of need. We anticipate in the near future the need for similar charging stations located on the North and South campuses in addition to Main campus,” says Morck.

The UNM charging station locations already appear on various EV websites such as ChargePoint® and Plugshare. Please note that ChargePoint® cards will be required to release the plug to connect to the vehicles for charging purposes. For more information about UNM’s EV charging stations, please visit http://pats.unm.edu/alternative-transport/electric-vehicle-charging/index.cfm.

PPD Scholarship Applications Due June 27th

The Physical Plant Department Scholarship Committee will meet in July to consider awards for the 2016-2017 academic years. Two separate awards will be available; each providing $300.00 per semester. Awards for the second semester will be contingent upon satisfactory scholastic performance during the first semester. These awards will be based on demonstrated academic performance, financial need, and educational program.

University of New Mexico students who are children of full-time or retired Physical Plant Department employees, including high school graduates who have recently been accepted to UNM, are eligible to apply.

Applicants need not designate which award they want. The committee will select the most deserving student in each case. No one will be awarded both scholarships.

Application forms are available at the Physical Plant Service Building. You may ask the administrative support staff for assistance, or you may call 277-2421 and they will send you a form. The form is also available online. On your computer browser enter http://ppd.unm.edu/for-ppd-staff/scholarship%20form%20information.html. Complete the form, print, and return the completed form with grade transcripts to Mary Ann Montoya in the Physical Plant office no later than June 27, 2016. (Please note: The application form indicates to enter your SSN. If you are a UNM student, please enter your UNM ID# instead.)
**Kudos**

Victor and Paul,

Mike Tuttle and I wanted to let you know what an outstanding employee John is. His work here at SRS is really exceptional. Thank you for all of your support.

Thanks,
Carla Domenici
Director, Safety & Risk Services

Dear Victor,

So I did not get a chance to write this last week. I wanted to thank and compliment the crew here on getting the Room 174 so clean. I know that it was at an off hour for their schedule, so thank you for that. The lab looked so much better. As a testimony the researcher who moved in wanted to know how exactly you guys got the counters so shiny.

Thanks Again,
Teri Anderson

**Roadway Repair to impact traffic on Redondo Loop**

*This four-week project will begin the week of June 20th*

The University of New Mexico’s (UNM) Physical Plant Department (PPD) has begun a roadway repair project on Redondo Drive. The work is being performed from the northwest corner of Coronado Hall extending all the way to George Pearl Hall.

The project includes milling and patching the existing asphalt, installation of concrete collars around utility valve boxes, an asphalt overlay, new pavement markings, and minor signage enhancements.

During the estimated four-week project, various lane closures and lane reductions will be required. Barricades and directional signage will be provided and flagmen will be present to direct traffic as needed.

Crosswalks throughout the project will be closed at various times, however, there will be crosswalks available for use. Access to the “A” and “R” parking lots, as well as the Cornell Parking structure, will also be briefly disrupted. Alternative access will be provided at these times.

PPD is requesting the campus community to do its best to avoid the area if possible, and please follow all detour and pedestrian traffic signs.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the project, contact PPD associate director, Willie West, at (505) 277-0615, or supervisor, Juan Garcia, at (505) 277-3272.

**PPD’s Building Coordinator Meeting Scheduled**

All PPD managers are being asked to attend this meeting on Wednesday, June 29th from 9-10:30 am. It will be located in the Anthropology Building room 163. Topics will include information about the summer construction project at the Student Residence Centers (SRCs), a new texting feature available for the UNM community to submit concerns to PPD, University Communications & Marketing (UCAM) will present about the branding initiative and how Building Coordinators can positively affect and interact with UNM’s brand, and a recap of a recent water concern at the UNM Children’s Campus.

For more information on this meeting, please contact Rachel Stone at 277-7831 or email at racheld@unm.edu.
Welcome to PPD

Please welcome Michelle Calkum to PPD Utilities. She is the new Admin 2, and began her new position on June 20, 2016. Welcome to PPD, Michelle!

New Employee Orientation Scheduled

Attention managers and supervisors! PPD’s next New Employee Orientation (NEO) is scheduled for Thursday, July 7, 2016. This session will be held in the Service Building Training Room 122 from 8:30-10:00am. Rachel Stone will be sending specific employee invitations to the Area managers next week. If you have any questions, please contact Rachel Stone at racheld@unm.edu or 505-277-7831.

LOBORRITO LUAU

Thursday, July 21, 2016
7:30am - 9:00am
SUB Ballrooms & HSC Plaza

Hawaiian shirts welcomed at the luau!

ISS Ice Cream Social

Friday, June 24, 2016
Hokona Cellar
11:30 am to 1 pm (or while treats last!)

Join us for a refreshing break from the summer heat!
Mingle with fellow ISS employees
Make-Your-Own-Sundae Bar
Non-dairy treats available

http://ppd.unm.edu

The Physical Plant Department’s mission is to consistently deliver effective programs and efficient facility service based on sustainable and collaborative outcome aligned with The University of New Mexico’s core mission. The Physical Plant Department’s vision is that our community, state, and national peers will recognize The University of New Mexico’s Physical Plant Department as a leader in campus sustainability and facilities stewardship.