The Farris Engineering Center renovation began last week, and as part of this project, construction fencing was installed closing the sidewalks on the southwest corner of the Mechanical Engineering building and in front of the Farris Engineering Center on Redondo Drive.

The construction fence will contain the construction area to prevent pedestrian and vehicle traffic in order to ensure the safety of passersby. During this time alternative sidewalk routes will provide access to the buildings in the area.

The UNM Department of Planning, Design & Construction (PDC) requests that the campus community to do its best to avoid the area if possible and follow all detour and pedestrian traffic signs for safety.

If you have any questions about this project contact the PDC at 505-277-3600.

PPD “All Star” Awards

The Physical Plant Department has officially begun the “All Star” staff recognition awards. The purpose of the award is to recognize employees for being exceptional and to show appreciation for the excellent staff we have here at PPD. Managers will nominate members of their staff every month and two employees will be selected for the award. Winners will receive a $20 LoboCa$h card to use at various locations on campus, and will be recognized in this newsletter.

All PPD employees with the exception of managers, associate directors, and the PPD director are eligible for this award if they meet the following criteria: successful completion of probation or trial period, regular staff, .50 FTE and above, most recent performance evaluation ration was successful overall, is in good standing, and has no pending or documented disciplinary actions within the last twelve months.

Farris Engineering Center Renovation has Begun

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If you have any questions about this project contact the PDC at 505-277-3600.

Ford Utilities Center Tours

Last week, Tom Davis, manager of Utilities Operations and Maintenance, gave a tour to a few PPD employees at the Ford Utilities Center.

Here’s what a couple of them had to say about their experience:

Kristina Rucker, Service Call Coordinator, Work Control: What most impressed me on my recent tour of the utilities plant was that UNM really is a city within a city. I had no idea that we were totally self-sufficient. And really how “green” a lot of that operation is. The sheer size of the generators and boilers used in there were overwhelming! Tom Davis was an excellent tour guide, and explained everything in great detail to us, as well as answered any questions asked in detail. It was truly an educational experience, and I’m very glad that I went. A big shout out to all the guys and gals that work in utilities. They really keep UNM alive!

Theresa Tafoya, Service Call Coordinator, Work Control - The tour was pretty interesting about how Ford Utilities operates on a daily basis generating steam, chilled water, electricity and compressed air for the whole entire campus. We had the opportunity to look at all the different equipment being used and what each one them do. Tom Davis was a good tour guide! Thanks!
UNM Brand Presentations begin this week for PPD

In September of 2015, The University of New Mexico began working with 160over90 to enhance the institution’s brand and increase global awareness of its offerings. The initiative is led by University Communication & Marketing (UCAM) and includes guidance and support from various representatives on campus.

Beginning the week of July 11th, UCAM will give a total of nine presentations to the Physical Plant Department employees in order to explain what this branding initiative is all about.

A January article on the UNM Newsroom highlights what the brand initiative is all about:

How would you describe The University of New Mexico to a friend or neighbor? How would you define the state’s flagship university to a person who doesn’t know what a flagship university is?

Research over the past decade indicates that people perceive the University in a positive way, but are less clear on the specifics.

“Our research has repeatedly shown that people within the state of New Mexico think favorably of UNM, but cannot clearly articulate why,” said Cinnamon Blair, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer. “This doesn’t mean people have a poor perception of us, it’s just unfocused.”

The University has contracted branding agency, 160over90, to address this lack of awareness. Today represents a milestone in process to enhance the institutions image, as the brand concept is rolled out to the UNM community.

“This brand will continue to evolve, and every person in the campus community adds some depth or detail to the effort,” Blair said. “We look forward to working with the entire University to build many opportunities for brand ownership based on what we’ve seen today.”

To read the full article, written by Ethan Rule, click here.

For more information about the UNM brand concept visit UNM Brand.

Parking Lot Safety

There has been a slew of suspicious activity and vehicle thefts in the Glot over the last several months. PPD would like to remind staff that if you see ANY suspicious activity in the parking lots or on the UNM campus generally, please contact the UNM Police Department immediately at 505-277-2241.

How can we keep our vehicles safe?

- Keep your vehicle locked at all times
- Close all windows and sunroofs, even though we are in the midst of the summer heat
- Place any valuables in the trunk (tools, iPads, laptops, backpacks/gym bags, money, mail, etc.)
- Remove garage door openers from vehicle
- Hide registration/insurance in a secret location in the vehicle
- Install anti-theft system if possible
- Be aware of your surroundings. Walk with a co-worker to your vehicle. If something doesn’t feel or look right, call the UNM Police Department at 505-277-2241
**Kudos**

Hi Victor,
I just wanted to let you know that I appreciate what a fantastic job your crew did cleaning the carpets in our administrative offices (Ortega 129) a couple of weeks ago. They look terrific. Please convey our heartfelt thanks to them.

Pam Castaldi, Director
UNM Language Learning Center

Good Morning Willie,
I just wanted to give a shout out to Juan Garcia for his efforts yesterday afternoon in directing traffic on Redondo. It was about 4:30 in the afternoon, very hot, and there was Juan making sure that folks were able to navigate through the construction area safely. He was also reminding folks to slow down while navigating around the curve.

I appreciated his diligence in keeping everyone safe and aware of their surroundings.

Sue Van Cleve,
Manager, IT Services
Institutional Support Services IT

Good Afternoon Tom Tafoya,
Once again a member of your team came to our campus to help us out. I must say that the one consistent fact in describing the support your team gives us is a tremendous amount of initiative. They work quickly and productively, always maintaining a clear focus on the ultimate goal. They have become an invaluable asset to our entire organization.

Please thank them on behalf of UNM Valencia!

Donald Cordova
Manager Facility Operations

**Ruben Herrera is “One Safe Lobo”**

Everyone is encouraged to make nominations for the PPD Safety Award. Ruben Herrera, Facilities Services Tech in Area 3, was nominated for preventing an accident or injury to another person, discovering a significant hazard, and implementing a new practice to prevent future occurrences.

According to the nomination form, Herrera noticed a burning smell in the Area 3 shop due to a bin of old batteries smoldering and smoking. Dirk Coffman, Area 3 electrician said, “If this would have been at an unusual hour of the night, a fire with harmful fumes could have started.”

Herrera also made the suggestion to tape all old battery terminals before they are put in the box in order to prevent this from happening again.

Congratulations, Ruben!

To nominate a PPD employee for the Safety Award, please visit the PPD Safety Committee website at http://ppd.unm.edu/for-ppd-staff/ppd-safety-committee.html.

Dick Coffman (right) congratulates Ruben Herrera (left) on winning the PPD Safety Award. Photo credit: Michael McCord
Welcome to PPD

Please welcome Anthony Espinoza to UNM Recycling. He is the new Recycling Tech, and began his new position on July 11, 2016. Welcome to PPD, Anthony!

Please welcome Alexis Lopez to UNM Recycling. He is the new Recycling Tech, and began his new position on July 11, 2016. Welcome to PPD, Alexis!

Temp to Regular

Please congratulate Richard Van Damme, Master HVAC tech, to Area 1! On July 9, 2016, he moved from being a temporary employee, to a regular, full-time employee at the Physical Plant Department. Congratulations, Richard!

Pokémon on Campus

Pokémon Go is a phone-based app game that is sweeping the country. The game uses real-world settings, such as The University of New Mexico, for players to search for imaginary characters. The game utilizes the smart phones built-in GPS system to determine the player’s location and make the Pokémon characters appear around the player so they can go “catch” them.

According to news reports, UNM Police have seen between 300 and 500 persons playing the game on the University campus after midnight earlier in the week. An article in Facilitiesnet.com reported that players have been wondering through areas such as the World Trade Center and September 11th Memorials. Other news reports indicate players at the Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C., Arlington National Cemetery and military bases around the world.

As interest in the game continues to expand, and similar apps are developed, increased distracted pedestrian traffic can be expected on campus. Please be vigilant when driving around campus to avoid distracted or preoccupied pedestrians.

Please join

for a free
Electric Vehicle Ride & Drive Event
Fri. July 22, 2016
1 – 3 P.M.
The University of New Mexico
J Lot (Yale and Lomas)

Free parking is available on the first floor of the UNM Yale parking structure.

Questions? Email: EV@pnm.com

The Physical Plant Department’s mission is to consistently deliver effective programs and efficient facility service based on sustainable and collaborative outcomes 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.