Management Team to lead PPD in the Interim by Rachel Stone

Institutional Support Services has announced that a management team will lead the Physical Plant Department (PPD) until a permanent director is hired. Dr. Gary Smith’s last day as interim director of PPD was Tuesday, January 31, 2017. Dr. Smith has been employed at UNM for over 21 years, and will leave behind a legacy of distinction and expertise PPD and the University have benefited from for decades.

"Many thanks to Gary for all that he has been able to accomplish over the last two decades. He will be greatly missed," says Chris Vallejos, associate vice president of Institutional Support Services.

The interim management team will include Chris Vallejos, associate vice president of Institutional Support Services (ISS), Shirley Mitchell, associate director of PPD Finance and Administration, and Jason Strauss, CEO of LEI (Lobo Energy, Inc.). Strauss will provide guidance to PPD Utilities and Engineering & Energy Services, while Mitchell will oversee the operations of PPD Administration, Accounting, Environmental Services, and Maintenance & Operations. Vallejos will direct all high-level decision making for the department.

In the meantime, a hiring committee has been formed and will review the applicants who applied to the national posting by the “best consideration” date of February 10, 2017. The posting can be found on UNMJobs. The goal of the hiring committee is to have a new PPD director in place by the Summer 2017.

Have fun and be safe, PPD!

Photo courtesy of UNM’s University Communications & Marketing department
**PPD All Star Awards**

The Physical Plant Department’s (PPD) “All Star” staff recognition award was developed to recognize employees for being exceptional and to show appreciation for the excellent staff here at PPD. Winners will receive a $20 LoboCa$h card to use at various locations on campus. Here are the PPD All Stars from the month of January:

**Congratulations to Bill Nail, Plumber 2, with Area 3!!**

Bill was nominated by Michael McCord, and he said:

*We nominated William Nail for the award based on his hard work, dedication and troubleshooting abilities. Bill has been a loyal and dependable Plumber 2 in Area Three for six years and has almost nine years with UNM. His assigned buildings total over 400,000 square feet and include the newest Area 3 building (CTLB) and some of the oldest campus facilities.*

Bill has taken on a number of projects which include the elimination of unused and abandoned domestic water piping in some of the older buildings, minimizing the possibility of stagnant water and contributing to the ongoing UNM [PPD Water Safety Program](#). He is supportive of other Area 3 staff, especially Facilities Service Techs who are assigned to assist him. Bill is willing and able to do what is asked of him and offers suggestions and alternatives to plumbing as well as other trades issues.

**Congratulations to Acacia Chavez, Admin Assistant 3, with PPD Engineering & Energy Services!!**

Acacia was nominated by Tom Tafoya, and he said:

*Acacia is awesome! I don’t know how we functioned before her arrival. She has organizational skills that allow her to take on multiple responsibilities or even multiple job titles: department expeditor, administrative duties, and small projects. She has taken on the stock room project all on her own, setting up and organizing what goes where, developing the UNM part numbers needed to utilize TMA stock room options, and she developed the bar code for our material which allows the technicians to scan material with an iPad.*

Continue on next page...
PPD unveils annual Outstanding Manager Award

The Physical Plant Department (PPD) announces the annual Outstanding Manager Award which was developed to appreciate and recognize the qualities of excellence, leadership, and customer service in the departmental managers. Nominations will be accepted until March 30, 2017. Anyone at The University of New Mexico can nominate a PPD manager for this award. Nomination forms can be found on the home page of the PPD website: ppd.unm.edu.

All PPD managers, associate directors, and the director are eligible to receive the award if they meet the following criteria: successful completion of probation or trial period, regular staff, .50 FTE and above, most recent performance evaluation rating was successful overall, is in good standing, and has no pending or documented disciplinary actions within the last 12 months. Please note, a manager is someone who is at a grade higher than their supervisors, supervises staff, and manages a budget.

To be eligible for this recognition and award, a manager must provide excellent customer service, be an asset to their unit, have made a significant contribution to the success of their work group, and/or have promoted a positive work environment for their staff.

The winner will be announced in April 2017, and their name will be added to the permanent plaque that will reside in the Service Building. They will also receive a smaller plaque to keep in recognition of their outstanding leadership at PPD.
Dignitaries break ground for the McKinnon Center for Management
by Rachel Stone

The demolition has begun at the site for the new McKinnon Center for Management building at the Anderson School of Management (ASM). The west wing has been stripped to its bare bones and will continue to be demolished to make way for the new 61,000 square feet facility, which will be approximately double the usable space Anderson’s students, faculty, and staff have been used to in the old west wing.

A groundbreaking ceremony took place this week at the construction site, with many dignitaries in attendance, such as ASM donor Ian McKinnon, Albuquerque Mayor Richard Berry, UNM Acting President Chaouki Abdallah, and a variety of other UNM officials. The Physical Plant Department’s (PPD) Special Activities unit provided the much needed support to ensure this was a successful event. Jessica Regensberg, supervisor for PPD Special Activities, spent several weeks collaborating with the ASM staff to plan for the event. The Special Activities moving crew executed the set up and tear down of the stage, chairs, ceremonial shovels, presentation set, podium, generator, and plywood which functioned as a walkway to the stage for the dignitaries.

“Our staff takes great pride in our work and ensuring that every event consistently receives the best customer service we can offer! We are dedicated to efficiency and professionalism and look forward to working with you on your next event or meeting, no matter the size,” says Regensberg.

Special Activities is able to support events such as this because of their large inventory of items needed for the variety of events held on The University campus. To learn more about the services provided by Special Activities, visit their website.

To read more about this event, click here.
Let’s Do Lunch

This month’s Staff Council Brown Bag Lecture Series topic will be, “Generational Differences: How We Work Together” featuring Dr. Jenna Crabb as our facilitator. Jenna is the Director of Career Services at UNM. This fun presentation will explore the generations that exist in today’s workforce, while helping increase understanding and perceptions around the generations in our own workplace. The event will take place on Friday, January 27th from noon – 1:00 pm in the Robert’s Room in Scholes Hall. Attendees are welcome to bring lunch, and keep in mind that space is limited, so please RSVP to Joe Lane at jlane@unm.edu.

Thrive Thursday and Financial Friday Seminar Series kicks off

Stop feeding your creditors and start funding your future!

Create a budget, then learn how to manage and prioritize your debt. Receive manageable strategies, tools, and tips to help you get a handle on your spending and start saving for important priorities.

The Thrive Thursday / Financial Friday February Seminar Series starts in February. February’s session will be from 12:00 – 1:00 pm on Thursday, February 16 (Main Campus, Business Center, EOD 1016) and Friday, February 17 (North Campus, HSLIC Library Room 428).

For information, participant resources, and links to Skype or webinar access from your desktop or smart phone, visit the Financial Wellness Program website, view the flyer, or call the HR Service Center at 505-277-MyHR (6947).

Wishing you progress and success in 2017! Brought to you by HR Benefits.
Kudos

Hello Victor,
I want to thank you for your awesome team for doing and amazing job on the floors in SMLC. Andres and his people have done a really, really nice job thank you.

Robert “Bobby” Ortiz
Dept. of Chemistry & Biochemistry
Dept. of Mathematics & Statistics

Dear Mr. Tovar,

I work in the second floor of the Business Center, and I wanted to let you know that the custodian team assigned to this building is awesome! (Dolores Badillo, Brandon Coriz and Margarita Arellano) They take their jobs seriously, always doing a good job keeping the building clean. The bathrooms are always clean before we get in at 8am; they vacuum and mop the halls daily and even the stairs sometimes. They also keep the glass of the building entrance doors spotless. They are friendly, and always courteous to all people in this building. You have excellent employees!

Sincerely,

Rosa Gonzalez-Rosenblatt, MBA
Director of Sponsored Projects
UNM Contract & Grant Accounting Office

Shiny, clean floors in a classroom at the Science & Math Learning Center. Photo provided by Robert “Bobby” Ortiz

PPD Custodial Services' Floor Crew make the floors shine. Photo provided by Robert “Bobby” Ortiz

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.