Dear FM Family,

I hope this meets you and yours well and I hope that you are enjoying the extra hour of daylight that we gained on March 13th when daylight savings began.

In last month’s FM Newsletter, we featured the first set of ‘FM Family’ members, Rana and Samah Ghosn, who work in FM Business Operations and FM Information Technology respectively. We hope to introduce more FM Family members who are also family throughout the year.

This month, we have featured Landscaping & Grounds Supervisors Jose “Rich” Jimenez and James Kearney. Spring is a wonderful time of year, especially for our amazing UNLV Landscaping & Grounds team members. Rich and James discuss a bit about themselves and the challenges and opportunities that spring time in the Las Vegas valley brings. By the way, did you know that James maintains the Landscape & Grounds Instagram page? Please click on the link to view and like the nice pictures and videos. And of course, please also follow the page to recieve regular updates.

I hope you like the new format of our FM Newsletter. Thanks to Annakaren Sanchez, we have made some changes and she has done a great job with it.

In community,

Musa
MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Happy birthday to all those celebrating this month!!

Isabel Higgins - 03/02
Haimanot Gebretsadik - 03/07
John Myers - 03/07
Kenneth Gonzalez - 03/07
Debra Schiavone - 03/15
La Tonya Atkins - 03/16
Elfie Catalan-Lezama - 03/16
Melvin Russel - 03/20
Donald Johnson - 03/20

What are some challenges that Springtime brings to Grounds?

James - “I would say weather. It can get windy. Newly planted trees need to be staked and watered. The water schedule changes from one day to three days a week. We have to do aerating, top dressing, over-seeding, and flag all irrigation heads so they don’t get broken. Then we go through with the aerator, fertilize, seed and top dress all one after another and that’s on all grass areas on campus.

Rich - “With that, all the contractors that are on campus we have to work around them. And they have GSI (Contractor) around campus doing the Wifi tearing up a lot of stuff and we have to go back and fix that.”

James - “Coordinating with the Student Union Event Services when they have events on the grass area. Making sure they are kept away from the reseeded areas to give the grass time to grow”

Rich - “Now is our busy time, ordering plants, trees etc. to get them all over campus and with that weeds start to grow”

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

James Kearny & Jose “Rich” Jimenez

Tell me about yourself?

Rich - “I have been here almost a total of 20 years. Started in ’86, stayed for 12 years until ’98, left a while and came back in 2014. I am a certified Arborist working with trees for 20 years, certified pesticide applicator and also working with irrigation. Supervising the crews right now and dealing with a lot of paperwork.

James - “I graduated in ’04 with a business in management degree. Worked in construction previously and when I got laid off during the market crash I was looking for something more stable. I got hired with UNLV not knowing anything, didn’t know anything about plants, didn’t think I would get this job. I have been trying to learn. I worked almost every position in the grounds shop. I was a Grounds Worker 1 and then got promoted to a Worker 2, did tree crew, equipment operator, irrigation, construction crew supervisor and now Facilities Supervisor. I have a pretty good understanding of how every shop operates and the challenges each crew has. Never really been into just one thing. I know a little of everything but not an expert in everything.”

Don’t forget to check out their Instagram page @unlvgroundsc. They currently have 350 followers and James is putting out educational things out there, a little about plants and their facts. He sometimes post pictures of the Grounds staff working around campus.
FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

February Anniversaries:
- Jason Halgas / LaTonya Atkinslang
- Michael Hicks / Moises Henriquez

Congratulations to both FM Trades & Custodial Employees!

SAFETY

The Night Crew team members, Leo McCausland (left) Nick Alley (middle), and Michael Hicks (right), received the RMS Safety Award for their coordination and attention to safety using the appropriate PPE and their training during an accident that happened on University Drive back in January.

*These dates were taken off workday based on the hire date that is posted. Apologies in advanced if some years may be off. Please contact Annakaren if there is a mistake.

FM TRADES & CUSTODIAL EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH

January - Jason Halgas / LaTonya Atkinslang
February - Michael Hicks / Moises Henriquez
New Employees, Promotions, Resignations & Retirements

Welcome to all new employees and congratulations to those who received promotions this month!

New Employees:
Sabrina Liaw, Recycling
03/01/22
Darlene Aranda, Temp
FMBO Accounting
03/03/22
Daniel England, FMBO
03/07/22
Cameron Pool,
Custodial Worker 2
03/09/22
Ethan Overson,
Custodial Worker 1
03/09/22
Jason Lowe, Painter 1
03/16/22
Ivy Gonzalez,
Custodial Worker 1
03/16/22
Jacqueline Gomez,
Custodial Worker 1
03/16/22
Taylor Gaultney,
Temp Help Desk
03/16/22
Deneisha Coleee,
Custodial Worker 1
03/16/22
Juanito Bato, Painter 2
03/16/22

Ricky Perdue, Painter 2
03/16/22
Trenise Wilson
Custodial Worker 1
03/16/22
Antionette Graham,
Custodial Worker 1
03/16/22
Katinka Moss,
Custodial Worker 1
03/16/22
Castor Cruz,
Help Desk AA3
03/16/22

Promotions:
Sabrina Vera,
Custodial Worker 2 prev. 1
02/18/22
Elfie Catalan-Lezama,
Custodial Worker 2 prev. 1
02/18/22
Vicki Caballero,
Custodial Worker 2 prev. 1
02/18/22
Xinia Carver,
Custodial Worker 2 prev. 1
02/18/22
Orlakdy Douangprachanh,
Custodial Worker 2 prev. 1
03/01/22

Resignations:
Chadwick Phillips,
03/15/22
Delmy Leiva,
03/19/22

Retirement:
Dan Bush, Custodial Worker 1
03/31/22

Congratulations to Daniel Bush on his retirement! He is a member of the UNLV FM Custodial Group 7 and has been at UNLV for 14 years and 6 months.

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Customer Experience: Kudos

UNLV SCHOOL OF INTEGRATED HEALTH SCIENCES - UNLV NUTRITION CENTER

“Tara,
On behalf of the UNLV Food Pantry, I want to begin by thanking all of you for participating in our first Farmers Market event, which turned out to be a great success. With your support, we were able to distribute over 10,000 lbs of food to feed 106 families, reaching a total of 399 individuals.

We are thrilled to now expand our services to members of the community outside of the university. 57% of those who attended were from UNLV while 43 %were from various areas around the Las Vegas are. The top most zip codes that we served were 89119, 89169, 89103, 89110, 89084.

We hope to continue to reach more through our future Farmers Market events. Those who attended were so gratefull for all of the food items provided and the kindness displayed by all of the volunteers. Once more, this was possible through the collaboration with our local Food Bank (Three Square), our kind sponsors and amaing volunteers. We also thank everyone who helped spread the word about this event and stopped by to show support.”
- UNLV Food Pantry Team

UNLV alumni, Mr. Bart Boulton and his wife, Linda Boulton, made a nice gesture to thank the Grounds team by bringing in coffee and bagels recently. This is what they wrote:

“We appreciate everything you and all of the Grounds crews are doing to make UNLV a pleasureable place to learn. The Grounds are the first impression a parent bringing their child onto the campus for a tour will see.”

Nice Job Grounds team!

SUSTAINABILITY

The chart above shoes the solar usage from 14 buildings throughout UNLV from 2018 - 2022. These buildings have solar panels that generate around 821.5 MWh per year.

The chart above gives a closer look into the energy generated from solar panels of buildings HAM & RAJ comparing to the other buildings they typically genreate less energy due to the size of solar panels.

These panels require monitoring and maintenance especially since the weather is constantly changing and power generated keeps fluctuating which sometimes can cause some fuses to burn and need to be replaced along with the regular wear and tear on different connection parts and cable that becomes degraded with time.
DIVERSITY CORNER

Women’s History Month March 1st - 31st / Employee Appreciation Day March 4th

Women’s History Month is celebrated every year through the month of March. This month provides an opportunity for us to reflect on the time, physical labor and emotional labor women have historically contributed to advance opportunities for people of all genders.

FM @ WORK

Plumbing team members, Edward Barone (left), and Larry Sierra (right) are shown installing a new back-flow water meter with an LTE endpoint at the Artemus W. Ham Concert Hall. This will help us with our smart water management, so that we can measure our water usage and protect our UNLV resources.

On March 4th we honored employees everywhere. A BIG thank you to all of our FM employees for all the work you do and the contributions you make towards our team. Your hard work never goes unnoticed!

FM @ WORK

Landscape and Grounds team members, Marvin Rodriguez (left), and Jerome Davis (right) planted this yucca plant on the south side of the Chemistry Building.