



PPD News

Director's View *by Al Sena*

Inside this issue:

Groundbreaking	2
PPD All Stars	3
Financial Classes	4
Basketball	4
PPD Scholarship Recipients	5
Financial Wel-ness	5
Kudos	5
Welcome to PPD/ Promotions	6

Happy New Year and welcome back! This is one of the most exciting times of the year for me. A fresh new perspective and opportunity to improve our efforts always seems to be at the forefront after the holidays. I hope you all enjoyed your family and friends over the break, and had a chance to recharge yourselves.

In the last six months, I have been able to observe and evaluate our efforts and I have come away very encouraged. We all have high expectations and understand that challenges can be met with good communication. Please be sure you talk to each other and listen to your colleagues and associates.

In the next three months, we will be looking forward to change as transitions occur from the President's office, associate department's, and to our own divisions and processes. Continuing a collaborative approach with our services and work will be a focus for the department, and I encourage the feedback each of you may have from your specific area.

New Mexico could really use some moisture, so please "think snow." Moisture also helps our campus remain healthy. The University has a wonderful reputation for its beautiful grounds thanks to our Grounds & Landscaping staff. The power of positive thinking may be that little bit more of what is needed to have an impact on our institution. Although we have had a very mild winter so far, which means savings for the institution, it does present issues we must address. Be sure to thank each other for the effort you all make to assure we have the wonderful campus we enjoy.

Please look forward to new information on our webpage as we will start highlighting many aspects of what PPD is engaged in, and how it helps make UNM such a great place to be.

I look forward to 2018 with great anticipation, and the positive impact we all will make in raising the expectations of our students, staff, and community. Each of us defines all of us.

Best wishes for a successful New Year.

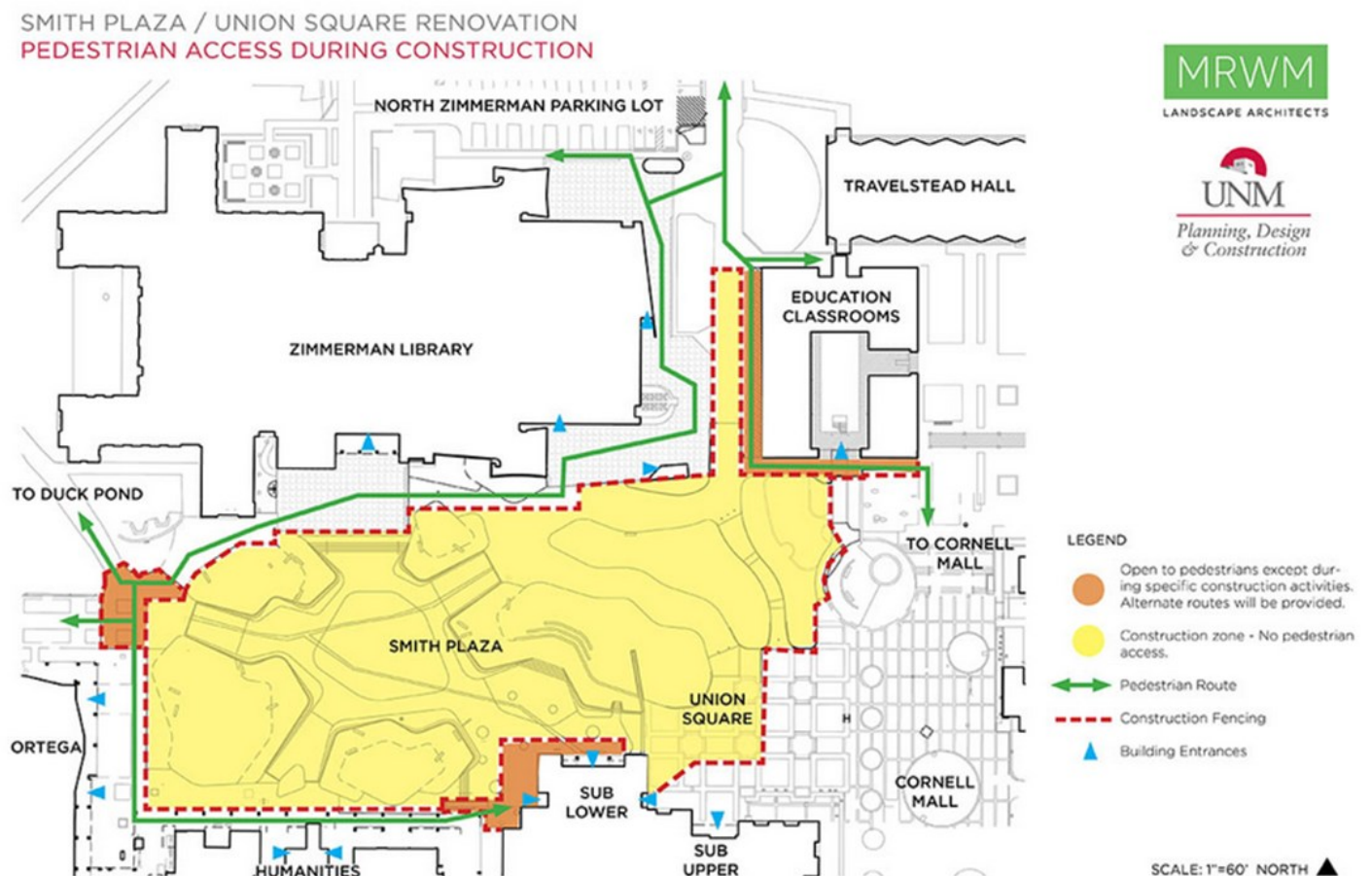


Smith Plaza groundbreaking ceremony set

The University of New Mexico will host a Smith Plaza renovation ground breaking ceremony on Thursday, Jan. 18, 2018 at 9 a.m. on Smith Plaza (south of Zimmerman Library, north of the Student Union Building (SUB)). The brief ceremony will feature information from Chaouki Abdallah, interim president for UNM, UNM Vice President for Student Affairs, Dr. Eliseo “Cheo” Torres, representatives from Jaynes Corporation, MRWM Landscape Architects, and others involved with the project.

Every day an estimated 10,000 people flow through Smith Plaza, known as the “heart” of the University. The space serves as a common pathway for students, staff, faculty, and community members to get to most areas of campus. The renovation, managed by UNM’s Planning, Design, & Construction, will create a vibrant, safe, accessible, and comfortable “great room” type of environment on the current concrete and brick site. The goal is to promote a balance of academic and social activities for the 25,000 full and part-time students enrolled at the University.

Construction is slated to finish in the summer 2018. For more information please visit the Smith Plaza renovation [website](#).



This diagram shows the contractor fence line and diverted pedestrian traffic, and is available on Planning, Design, & Construction’s (PDC) [website](#).

PPD All Stars

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 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 December:



(from l to r) Al Sena, Luis Griego, Tom Tafoya, and Bob Notary. Credit: Rachel Stone

Congratulations to Luis Griego, energy services tech, with PPD Engineering & Energy Services!! Luis was nominated by Tom Tafoya, and he said:

I am really happy Luis finally got picked for the PPD All Star award. Luis is deserving of a lot more than we could ever give him. He has great attention to details, and has recognized some safety issues within building projects and we are now in the process of correcting these issues with safety projects. Luis reminds us of the main reason we are here at the University: the students and their safety and education. His customer skills are extraordinary, he makes multiple follow-ups with his customers assuring them that whether his projects affect rooms being utilized for office space, labs or general class rooms, that he will do all he can to make sure room temperatures are well within the limits required. I have come to respect the honesty that Luis brings to the department. He holds nothing back and will identify issues as well as the solutions. Luis is a great asset to the Engineering & Energy Services group. I am really proud to have him on my team!



(from l to r) Al Sena, Trevor Tyler, and Joseph Lopez. Credit: Rachel Stone

Congratulations to Trevor Tyler, HVAC tech 1, with Area 4!! Trevor was nominated by David Gauthier, and his supervisor, Joseph Lopez, said:

Trevor has been an important part of Area 4 for over five years. He started out as a facilities services tech, and after a lot of studying and hard work, he was promoted to HVAC 1. The shortage of HVAC techs in Area 4 has meant additional work for the remaining HVAC techs. Along with maintaining his assigned buildings, he has done an excellent job keeping up with the additional work load. Trevor has participated in additional PPD activities including being a member of the PPD Safety Committee and volunteered to be a part of the [PPD safety video](#) last summer. He has excellent customer service skills and a positive attitude which has resulted in consistently receiving outstanding survey reviews from his customers. Trevor has always taken the time to help his coworkers with everything from iPad issues to volunteering to assist on large projects. Trevor is a team player and provides excellent support for the Physical Plant Department mission.



BBVA Compass Bank to offer financial classes to PPD staff

BBVA Compass has offered to provide a variety of finance classes to the employees of PPD. Because the bank is offering a variety of classes, organizers need your help in identifying which classes to offer.

The classes will be held on campus at various times and locations. Each class will last anywhere from 45 minutes to 1.5 hours, depending on the class. PPD employees can attend any of the classes they are interested in with prior approval from their supervisor (as long as the time away from work will not impact the proper performance of the work unit). Each class will be paid time as long as the class is taken during their normal scheduled work hours.

Please take the survey to provide your feedback. The survey will only take 5-10 minutes to complete. Once all survey results have been compiled, the classes, times, and locations will be announced.

English survey - <https://esurvey.unm.edu/opinio/s?s=85057>

Spanish survey - <https://esurvey.unm.edu/opinio/s?s=85366>

UNM Athletics shares suite tickets with PPD employees

Eight PPD employees were able to attend the Jan. 10 UNM men's Lobo basketball game versus the Wyoming Cowboys courtesy of UNM Athletics. 16 suite tickets were donated which allowed randomly selected PPD employees to bring a guest and enjoy the suite treatment at Dreamstyle Arena. The PPD employees who attended were:

- Maria Ibarra de Najjar, Main Custodial
- Zaklina Zera, HSC Custodial
- Ronnie Montoya, Main Custodial
- Rochelle Lucas, Work Control
- Acacia Chavez, Engineering & Energy Services
- Antonio Padilla, Main Custodial
- Rudy Garcia, Area 1
- John Quintana, Area 1

Congratulations to the Lobos who won the game 75-66, and thank you to UNM Athletics.
Go Lobos!



Acacia Chavez and Rochelle Lucas at last night's Lobo men's basketball game. Photo courtesy of Acacia Chavez.



Photo courtesy of Acacia Chavez.

2017-2018 PPD Scholarship Recipients

The PPD Scholarship Committee has selected the recipients of the Clayton & Agnes May Barber and M.F. Fifield scholarships for the 2017-2018 school year. These awards are based on demonstrated academic performance, financial need, and educational program here at The University of New Mexico.

This year's recipients are:

- Amanda Damazyn, daughter of Brian Damazyn – Clayton and Agnes May Barber Memorial Scholarship
- Kristin Crocker, daughter of Michael Crocker – M.F. Fifield Memorial Scholarship

Congratulations to both of you!

Financial Wellness Sessions

This month's topic: *Why Do You Need An Estate Plan?*

Join TIAA Wealth Management Consultant Denise Lambert, who will help you learn more about creating or updating a will, asset ownership, and beneficiary designations. Take away questions for your attorney to create an effective estate plan. Become familiar with basic documents needed for your plan. Prepare for health care and financial decisions if you become incapacitated. Evaluate the potential for estate taxes.

See the flyer at <https://hr.unm.edu/docs/benefits/estate-planning-financial-wellness-flyer.pdf> for more details on this free seminar occurring at noon on January 25 and 26, 2018.

Complimentary lunch is provided for those who RSVP and attend in person.

Registration and virtual access are available on the [Monthly Financial Wellness Seminars](#) webpage or via the links included in the flyer.

Brought to you by UNM Benefits.

Kudos

Hi Victor [Tovar],

I just wanted to let you know how appreciative we are of Arnita [Peralta] and her crew. They have done such an amazing job and giving our building some much needed TLC.

I haven't seen anyone work so hard and she genuinely cares about our building and is striving to make it more presentable and a nicer work environment for everyone who works here and those who walk through. Everyone has commented on how much better our building is looking.

We are so grateful to have her and her crew taking care of our building. Thank you.

*Carolyn K. Souther
UNM Student Publications
Marron Hall*

Welcome to PPD

Please welcome Brian Vernon back to PPD! He worked for PPD Grounds & Landscaping several years ago, and is now a facilities services tech for Area 3. Welcome to PPD, Brian!

Please welcome Michael Griego back to UNM! He worked for Residence Life & Student Housing a couple of years ago, and is now a facilities services tech for Area 3. Welcome to PPD, Michael!

Temp to Regular

Please congratulate the following employees on moving from temporary employees, to regular, full-time employees of the Physical Plant Department:

- Daniel Montana, custodian, Main Campus Custodial Services
- Sandra Espinoza, custodian, Main Campus Custodial Services
- Margarita Chavez, custodian, Health Sciences Center Custodial Services
- Cory Newhouse, custodian, Health Sciences Center Custodial Services

PPD Promotions

Victor Navarro is now an irrigation tech with Grounds & Landscaping. He was promoted from a custodian with Main Campus Custodial Services. Congratulations, Victor!



If you haven't see the new Farris Engineering Center, check it out! The building is now open. [Click here](#) to read more about this project by Planning, Design, & Construction.



Physical Plant Department
MSC07 4200
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001
Phone: 505-277-2421



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.