



# PPD News

## UNM commits to accelerate local climate action

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New ES manager	2	The University of California (UC) unveiled the <a href="#">University Climate Change Coalition</a> , or UC3, a bold new coalition of 13 leading North American research universities that will prototype a collaborative model designed to help local communities achieve their climate goals and accelerate the transition to a low-carbon future.
PPD All Stars	3	New Mexico raised and current UC President Janet Napolitano announced the initial cohort of distinguished universities, which includes The University of New Mexico (UNM). The cohort has committed to mobilize their resources and expertise to accelerate local and regional climate action in partnership with businesses, cities and states.
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**Cross-sector forums:** Every UC3 institution will convene a climate change forum in 2018 to bring together community and business leaders, elected officials and other local stakeholders. Meetings will be tailored to meet local and regional objectives shared across sectors and will aim to speed the implementation of research-driven climate policies and solutions.

**Coalition climate mitigation and adaptation report:** A coalition-wide report, to be released in late 2018, will synthesize the best practices, policies and recommendations from all UC3 forums into a framework for continued progress on climate change goals across the nation and the world.

All UC3 members have already pledged to reduce their institutional carbon footprints, with commitments ranging from making more climate-friendly investments to becoming operationally carbon neutral.

“We are excited about the possibility of partnering with other research universities to highlight our accomplishments and learn from each other, as each of our institutions strive toward carbon reduction and improving energy technologies for the future,” said UNM Interim President Chaouki Abdallah.

UC3 will operate in close partnership with Second Nature’s [Climate Leadership Network](#), a group of hundreds of colleges and universities that have committed to taking action on climate.

Harnessing the resources and convening power of member institutions, the coalition will work to inform and galvanize local, regional and national action on climate change. Coalition members will bring to these efforts a critical body of expertise in areas including advanced climate

### UC3 Members:

- Arizona State University
- California Institute of Technology
- Tecnológico de Monterrey
- La Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
- The Ohio State University
- The State University of New York
- The University of British Columbia
- The University of California
- University of Colorado, Boulder
- University of Maryland, College Park
- The University of New Mexico
- The University of Toronto
- The University of Washington

modeling, energy storage systems, next-generation solar cells and devices, energy-efficiency technologies, biofuels, smart grids, environmental regulatory policies and more.

“Research universities play an important role in creating new knowledge, convening thought leadership, and serving as long-term community members. By applying these strengths to locally relevant climate challenges, we see transformative potential for accelerating climate solutions in these locations in a way that couldn’t happen if the institutions and sectors continued to act on their own,” said Timothy Carter, president of Second Nature.

UNM is internationally recognized for its research in renewable solar energy and biofuels energy technology, and has incorporated sustainable energy practices since the 1970s. UNM was one of the first U.S. universities to establish a sustainability studies program, which culminates in a research or creative expression capstone project. The University also provides heating, cooling, and electricity to hundreds of buildings through an innovative district energy system that uses energy-efficient cogeneration to produce both steam and electricity. Since its installation in 2006, UNM has reduced its energy consumption by 24% despite the significant increase in Main Campus square footage.

For more information about the UC3 coalition, visit [secondnature.org/uc3-coalition/](http://secondnature.org/uc3-coalition/).

To learn more about UNM’s carbon neutrality and sustainability efforts, visit <http://sustainability.unm.edu/>.

## **New PPD environmental services manager announced**

Clean spaces and manicured landscapes are important first impressions that attract students and faculty to The University of New Mexico (UNM). The University’s unique Main Campus is maintained by the [Physical Plant Department \(PPD\)](#), and the newly appointed manager of PPD Environmental Services says he will continue to keep the campus looking beautiful with stewardship and pride.

Michael McCord has been selected to fill this important role at PPD after the hiring committee evaluated many qualified candidates. McCord has been with the University since 2013 as the manager of PPD Area 3, and for seven months served as the interim manager of PPD Area 2 as well.

Al Sena, the director of PPD, believes that McCord is the perfect fit for this job because of his 44 year tenure in facilities management, and his exemplary leadership at the University over the last five years.



“Michael has shown through his service that he is a strong leader with a keen sense of how to implement processes to improve our customer’s experience with PPD. We are excited to have him on the leadership team in the department and look forward to great things to come,” said Sena.

Prior to McCord’s time with the University, he was the facilities manager in charge of the main library and special projects at the Detroit Public Library System in Michigan, and was the superintendent of facilities at Kirk in the Hills Church in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

The manager of PPD’s Environmental Services division is responsible for planning, development, coordination, implementation, and management of:

Custodial Services  
Special Activities

Grounds & Landscaping  
UNM Automotive Center

Integrated Pest Management

McCord’s new appointment is effective Feb. 1, 2018.

## 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 January:



(from l to r) Al Sena, Bob Adams, and Larry Schuster.  
Credit: Rachel Stone

Congratulations to Bob Adams, supervisor of fiscal services, with PPD Utilities!! Bob was nominated by Tom Davis, and Larry Schuster said:

*Bob's effort as the fiscal services supervisor for PPD Utilities has been exemplary. He is responsible for all purchasing, budgeting, fiscal tracking, forecasting and reporting of the business activities and capital projects for Utilities, which are essential functions in operating a district energy plant. Bob has been key to the preparation of the division's strategic plan, aggregating information from the associate director, utilities engineers and the plant manager to project annual operational and capital requirements on a rolling five-year basis. He has been with Utilities for 11 years, has met every deadline set for him, and provides information requests in a timely fashion without complaint or effect on his other duties. He is generally the last person out of the office at the end of the day, and his performance, dedication, loyalty, unique skills and knowledge are of great value to the division, the Physical Plant Department and the University.*



(from l to r) Mary Clark, Josh LaCour and Al Sena.  
Credit: Giovanna Archuleta

Congratulations to Josh LaCour, lead recycling tech, with Recycling!! Josh was nominated by Mary Clark, and she said:

*Last year, when the Recycling supervisor resigned, Josh was offered the opportunity to take on additional responsibilities in order to keep Recycling Services running smoothly. His willingness and ability to do more work led to him being promoted to the lead recycling tech position. A UNM employee since 2013, Josh is a good customer service representative for the Physical Plant Department and is always looking for ways to improve our recycling processes and make us more efficient. If you ask him, he will happily show you one of the many hundreds of photos of his baby boy on his phone.*



## Nominate a PPD manager for the Outstanding Manager Award



Nominations are now being accepted for the Physical Plant Department (PPD) annual Outstanding Manager Award. This award was developed to appreciate and recognize the qualities of excellence, leadership, and customer service in the departmental managers. Nominations will be accepted until March 31, 2018. 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](http://ppd.unm.edu).

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 2018, and their name will be added to the permanent plaque that resides in the Service Building. They will also receive a smaller plaque to keep in recognition of their outstanding leadership at PPD.

Last year's recipient was [Michael Crocker](#), manager of the HSC Custodial Services.

## UNM leadership put on pizza hats to surprise departments

by **Katie Williams**

The University's annual giving campaign, [UNM Gives](#), kicked-off this past fall with a promise. The department on north and main campus that increases participation in the campaign will receive a pizza party. And today UNM leadership delivered on that promise.

Interim President Chaouki Abdallah, Chancellor for Health Sciences Paul Roth and surprise guest Incoming President Garnett Stokes, wanted to honor the employees in the winning departments by delivering these pizzas personally—complete with genuine gratitude and Saggios Pizza hats. The pizza parlor generously donated the pies for the event.

The deliveries were back-to-back at two different locations. First the team surprised the Physical Plant Department. This main campus group received the lunch in honor of 54 percent of their employees supporting the campaign. As a board member of the United Way of Central New Mexico, Abdallah was especially grateful for their participation as well as the commitment of employees across the University.

"Thank you to everyone who generously made a pledge to the United Way or the UNM Foundation, during the UNM Gives campaign," said Abdallah. "I am so proud that UNM faculty and staff raised over \$725,000 to give back to our community, in spite of challenging fiscal times."

To read more, [click here](#).



*Brian Aragon enjoys Saggio's pizza while giving his fellow PPD staff members a "thumbs up."*

*Credit: Rachel Stone*

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## Kudos

John [Cox],

I would like to acknowledge Arnita [Peralta], a member of the custodial staff within Castetter. As you know, she recently waxed the floor in room 214. She did an amazing job with great attention to detail. Since coming to Castetter I have found Arnita to be friendly, accommodating and hard working. It is obvious she takes pride in her work as she is always observed diligently scrubbing various areas of the building. Please share my appreciation with Arnita.

Thanks,

Bethaney Fehrenkamp

PhD Candidate

Robert Miller Lab

Center for Evolutionary and Theoretical Immunology University of New Mexico Biology Department

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Hi Willie [West],

Arnita Peralta the lead [custodian] from Castetter Hall would like to thank the grounds supervisor Juan Garcia for helping her and her the crew find keys that were thrown in the dumpster. We appreciate his promptness and the keys were found. Thank you, Juan.

Thank you

Maria Pacheco

PPD Main Campus Custodial Services

## Saver's Tax Credit

The [saver's credit](#), also referred to as the Retirement Savings Contributions Credit, can offset all or part of the first \$2,000 that workers voluntarily contribute to a 401(k), 403(b) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan; to a [SIMPLE IRA](#), or to an individual retirement account (IRA).

But just 25 percent of American workers with annual household incomes of less than \$50,000 are aware of the credit, according to the 16th Annual [Transamerica Retirement Survey](#).

“The saver's credit is in addition to the tax benefits of contributing pretax dollars to retirement plans. Because this double benefit sounds too good to be true, many eligible savers may be confusing the two incentives,” said Catherine Collinson, president of the Los Angeles-based Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies, a nonprofit research institute funded by Transamerica Life Insurance Co.

To learn more about this credit, please visit [https://www.shrm.org/resourcesandtools/hr-topics/benefits/pages/savers-credit-reminder.aspx?\\_ga=2.213185300.1230566157.1516893730-1931867511.1516219450](https://www.shrm.org/resourcesandtools/hr-topics/benefits/pages/savers-credit-reminder.aspx?_ga=2.213185300.1230566157.1516893730-1931867511.1516219450)

# Tax day is April 17, 2018

## PPD Promotions

Trevor Tyler is now an HVAC tech 2 in Area 4. He was promoted from a HVAC tech 1. Congratulations, Trevor!

## Registration for the RMA annual conference now open

Register today for the upcoming Rocky Mountain APPA (RMA) 2018 annual conference. It will be held in Aurora, Colorado Sept. 24-26. [Click here](#) for conference information and registration.



Each year, RMA holds an annual conference each year, combined with educational sessions and networking activities in a regionally customized professional development conference.

## Financial Wellness February

*Tax Planning Update: How Will The New Tax Laws Impact You?*

Join UNM Financial Wellness and Edwin Fernandez, CPA-PFS with Voya/Legacy Financial Group, as we provide strategies to reduce your taxable income, lower your income taxes, and understand how the new income tax laws and rates may impact your tax situation. Gain a better understanding of your “top marginal tax bracket” and decide what actions to take now and in the future.

See the [event flyer](#) for more details on this free session from 12:00 – 1:00 pm on February 22 and 23, 2018.

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



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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.

## How Will the New Tax Laws and Rates Impact You?

A UNM Financial Wellness Seminar



Facilitator: Edwin Fernandez, CPA-PFS VOYA/Legacy Financial Group

- Learn how the new income tax laws and rates may impact your situation
- Review strategies to reduce your taxable income and lower your income tax
- Better understand your “top marginal tax bracket”
- Decide which actions to take now and in the future

### Main Campus

Thursday, February 22, 2018  
12:00 – 1:00 pm  
UNM Business Center, EOD 1018  
[Join Skype Meeting](#)

### North Campus

Friday, February 23, 2018  
12:00 – 1:00 pm  
HSLIC Library, Room 428  
[Join Webcast\\*](#)

[Click Here to Register](#)

Workshops are open to UNM Faculty, Staff, and Retirees  
(Not available to student employees)  
Questions? Call 505-277-MyHR (6947) or visit  
[hr.unm.edu/financial-wellness-program](http://hr.unm.edu/financial-wellness-program)



\*Access Webcasts via Internet Explorer. Contact IT to update Silverlight.

