



March 31-April 20, 2017

PPD Budget Update by Rachel Stone

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These days it's almost impossible to avoid the concern over the UNM budget, but interim PPD director, Shirley Mitchell, is confident that PPD will survive the inevitable budget cuts looming at The University.

Mitchell explained that PPD has planned for a 3% cut, which translates to approximately a \$570,000 cut to the operations on the Main Campus and a \$65,000 cut to the HSC operations budget. These cuts will be offset by a series of strategies, one being to tap into \$200,000 in PPD's savings account. These saved funds are a result of open positions and the time it takes to fill them (also known as a "hiring lag"). There have also been improved efficiencies implemented that resulted in departmental cost savings.

Mitchell said, "Historically, PPD has used these savings to self-fund projects. Because of the budget cuts that have taken place the past few years, we're now using these savings to ensure we can meet our annual budget requirements."

The remaining \$370,000 cut will come from shifting I&G (Instruction & General) funded salaries to ISUs (Internal Service Units), which are PPD units that generate their own revenue that can fund salary expenses. The \$65,000 cut to HSC operations will be made up by shifting the salaries of two staff members.

Mitchell says that The University administration could decide to take deeper, cost-cutting measures, and those would be out of her control. For example, travel budgets and mandatory staff furloughs could be implemented at a university-wide level. The good news is that there was no reduction to the I&G budget for Utilities on either side of campus.

"We knew that we were going to see a cut for the coming fiscal year, and I'm proud that we have a solid plan in place to overcome this large reduction in our operating costs," Mitchell explained.

When asked about the possibility of lay-offs, Mitchell said, "I will do everything I can to protect everyone's job at the Physical Plant Department."

Service Building restroom remodel to begin next week

Beginning Monday, April 24, Planning, Design, & Construction (PDC) will begin a project to remodel both the men's and women's restrooms on the first floor of the Service Building. PDC estimates the project will be completed mid-June, 2017. The restroom that is currently a single-stall men's room will be converted to a women's restroom during the construction. After the remodel of the women's restroom is complete, the single-stall restroom will be converted into a custodial closet.

During construction, men can use the upstairs restroom located in PDC, as well as the restroom in the Grounds building and the Information Technologies (IT) building. Women can use the single-stall restroom, the restroom upstairs, as well as the Grounds and IT restrooms.

If you have questions about this project, please contact Shirley Mitchell at 277-1102 or email at mitchses@unm.edu, or Tony Silva at 382-5297 or email at tosilva@unm.edu.

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 March:

Congratulations to Joe Lovato who is a plumber 2 in Area 4!! Joe was nominated by Vince Chavez, and he said:

Joe Lovato has been a pleasure to work with here at Area 4. He has a very strong grasp of what it means to be a maintenance Plumber 2. He explains to our customers what he is doing at all times, and provides them with personalized service. We have received many praises from his clients. He has a positive, can-do attitude and is always asking his peers if they need a helping hand.



Shirley Mitchell, Joe Lovato, and Vince Chavez.
Credit: Rachel Stone



Shirley Mitchell, Earl Browning, and Larry Whittle. Credit: Rachel Stone

Congratulations to Earl Browning who is a master plumber in Area 3!! Earl was nominated by Michael McCord, and his supervisor, Larry Whittle, said:

As a Master Plumber, Earl has been a PPD team member for 33 years and in Area 3 for 23 years. Earl has consistently been a dedicated employee who does whatever it takes to get the job done. He provides outstanding customer service to students, faculty, and staff. Earl is a key contributor to the success of Area 3's facility maintenance. His vast plumbing knowledge aid in timely repairs throughout Area 3 facilities and underground utilities. We are fortunate to have Earl as our Master Plumber in Area 3.

Arborists schedule tree plantings for Earth and Arbor Day

The Physical Plant Department (PPD) arborists have announced an open invitation to the campus community to participate in a series of tree plantings to commemorate Earth Day and National Arbor Day. Learn about proper tree planning techniques and the variety of trees found at The University of New Mexico (UNM). Deemed a national arboretum, the UNM Main Campus is home to over 5,000 trees with approximately 215 different species. Six new species will be added during the April plantings.

Friday, April 21st: North of Zimmerman Library

Planting times: 9:30 am – 10:30 am & 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

*Spring Snow Crabapple

Monday, April 24th: North of Zimmerman Library

Planting times: 9:30 am – 10:30 am & 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

* Perfect Purple Crabapple

Tuesday, April 25th: North of the Duck Pond

Planting times: 9:30 am – 10:30 am & 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

*Purple Plum and Flowering Cherry

Wednesday, April 26th: West of Family Practice (North Campus)

Planting times: 9:30 am – 10:30 am & 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

*Flowering Pear

Thursday, April 27th: East side of Johnson Field & South of the Real Estate Building

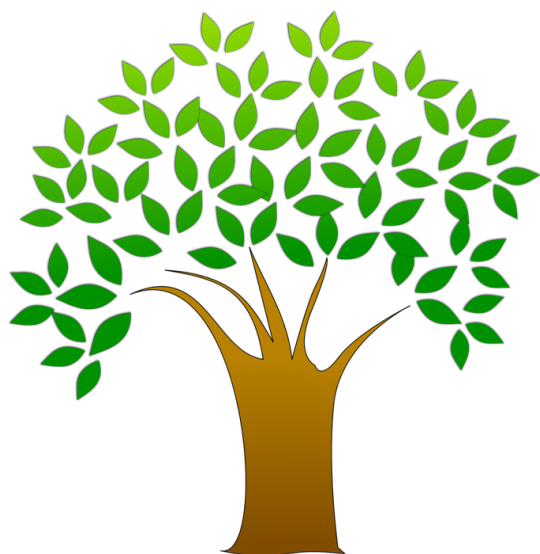
Planting times: 9:30 am – 10:30 am & 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

*Hackberry and Crimson Cloud Hawthorne

Friday, April 28th: North of Scholes Hall

Planting times: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

*Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry, Russian Hawthorne, and Chinese Date Tree



The 2nd Annual
Stadium Stair Challenge
All Fitness Levels Welcome!



Saturday, April 29, 2017
9:00 am
University Stadium

\$80 for Training & Challenge*
\$40 for Challenge Only

Register Online hr.unm.edu/ssc
Register before April 7 to get a t-shirt in your size!

*UNM Tuition Remission Eligible

UNM Employee Health Promotion hr.unm.edu/ehp | 505-272-4460

Mary Clark awarded Jim Davis Staff Council Award



From left: Daniel Weems, Mary Clark, and Kathy McKinstry. Credit: Kathy Meadows

During Staff Council's Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon this week, Mary Clark, UNM sustainability manager, was presented with the 2017 Jim Davis Staff Council Award for Meritorious Service. This award was given in recognition of her many years of dedicated work on the Council. Mary is the Precinct 17 Representative which encompasses the whole of the Physical Plant Department. She served two terms as Staff Council President and currently serves as the Speaker, a position she has held for a number of years.

"I've sat on Staff Council for over 10 years and continue to see it's increasing importance as the voice of staff to the administration," said Clark. "I'm extremely proud to be recognized by Staff Council with this award for my service to the Council and representation of my constituents at the Physical Plant Department."

The award, named after former staff councilor Jim Davis, recognizes the significant contributions of an individual to the Staff Council. The Jim Davis Award is presented each year and the recipients are presented with a plaque.

The award was established in 1999, and is named after the late Jim Davis, who served as a Staff Councilor for more than five years on numerous committees and was the Council's Speaker for four years. Davis was the first to receive the award and since then it has been presented annually.

Congratulations, Mary!

Lunch with the Director

Since February, 78 PPD employees have met with Shirley Mitchell for "Lunch with the Director." Every week, approximately 10 randomly selected PPD employees sit down for an informal lunch to meet and chat in an effort to celebrate our accomplishments and get to know one another better.

Below are a few responses from employees who attended the lunch:

"I think these lunches are a wonderful thing. Employees can take advantage of expressing what's on their mind to the person overseeing all of the operations in the department. It's also an opportunity to have someone listen, and Shirley DOES listen. This makes a huge difference."

"I've heard that some of the staff are reluctant to attend, but after they do, they realize that it was just lunch - no pressure."

"It wasn't really a work-related lunch. Just stuff about how long you have been at UNM, what you do, etc. It was relaxed and I encourage folks to go! If nothing else, it's a break from the day."

"I was really pleased to see the director/upper-administration. It break barriers, and is the right direction to go. I wish I'd get to go more often!"

"I liked to meet staff that I wouldn't have otherwise met."



Photo credit: Rachel Stone

Three PPD employees represent on Staff Council

The UNM Staff Council elections were held this month, and three PPD employees were elected to Staff Council as a representative for their job grade. They are:

- Kristina Rucker, service call coordinator, Work Control – Grade 7 councilor (re-elected)
- Charles King, facilities services tech, Area 3 – Grade 7 councilor (re-elected)
- Jeffery Barkley, master utilities maintenance mechanic, Utilities – Grade 11 councilor

Congratulations to all three of you, and thank you for representing PPD on the Staff Council!

A message from Kristina Rucker:

I was so excited the day I got the call with my offer of employment at UNM. Finally, I was going to be a part of something bigger. Somewhere that cared about its employees, and where employees cared about their employer.

I quickly decided that I wanted to do something to be a part of this unique community. I tried volunteering for different committees, but unfortunately, as a driver in the transportation department, there weren't a lot of opportunities for me to be a part of things like that. So when I decided to make my move over to PPD, I immediately started seeing what I could become a part of.

One morning I received an email from Staff Council stating they had an open seat in my wage grade and, if I was interested, to contact them. I did it right away, and I'm really glad I did. If I can help to improve just one person's situation, or resolve an issue, or find an answer to their question, then I have done something. I really enjoy helping people, and giving of myself and time to help others.

Another councilor stated yesterday the faculty and students seem to sometimes not really know what staff members actually do here on the campus. The answer to that is "Staff make it happen." That statement seems to hit the nail on the head, don't you think? We have the best Physical Plant Department anywhere. Our workers really ROCK! And I consider it a pure pleasure to be able to assist any of them with anything I can.

I am so excited to have been re-elected to Staff Council for the next term, and I know that I will be a part of a positive change. Please don't ever hesitate to contact me for any problems or concerns. If I can't help you directly, I will find the person who can.

A message from Charles King:

I wanted to serve on the committee to represent not only my grade, but PPD as a whole. I believe being a part of the Staff Council is a great chance to get involved with programs UNM has to offer. I noticed a lack of involvement from PPD and chose to be a voice for our department. It is important to me that our issues and concerns are heard as well as being a part of the countless programs already in place. It will be rewarding to work as a member of a team that has an impact on our daily roles at UNM. I am looking forward to the challenges and opportunities during my elected term.

Thank you to all,

CJ King



Open forums scheduled for PPD director finalists

The search committee for the Physical Plant Department (PPD) director has announced that five finalists will visit The University of New Mexico (UNM) campus to participate in a series of open forums and meetings with administrators, faculty, staff, and students. All PPD staff are encouraged to attend the forums to ask questions of the candidates and provide feedback to the search committee. Work with your supervisor to arrange which forums would work best for the unit to ensure proper staffing; please note there are two forums available for each candidate.

The director of PPD is responsible for approximately 400 employees, the largest department at UNM, and an annual budget of approximately \$63 million. PPD is responsible for the care and upkeep of the physical campus environment comprising of more than 6 million square feet of facilities and 680 acres of land. PPD also maintains and operates The University's [district energy system](#) which provides electricity, steam, chilled water, and domestic water throughout the majority of UNM's Main Campus.

Open Forum Schedule:

Rick Martinez: Thursday, April 20, 10:15 – 11:00 a.m. & 2:45 – 3:30 p.m., Hokona Hall, Hokona Cellar

Alfred Sena: Monday, May 1, 10:15 – 11:00 a.m. & 2:45 – 3:30 p.m., Hokona Hall, Hokona Cellar

John Morris: Tuesday, May 2, 10:15 – 11:00 a.m. & 2:45 – 3:30 p.m., Hokona Hall, Hokona Cellar

Thomas Piccorelli: Wednesday, May 3, 10:15 – 11:00 a.m. & 2:45 – 3:30 p.m., Hokona Hall, Hokona Cellar

Michael Allen: Friday, May 5, 10:15 – 11:00 a.m. & 2:45 – 3:30 p.m., Hokona Hall, Hokona Cellar

To review the finalists' bios, please [click here](#).

RMA annual conference registration

The 2017 RMA Annual Meeting and Conference, will be held in Jackson, Wyoming September 18-20, 2017 at the Snow King Lodge and Event Center.

Rocky Mountain APPA (RMA) holds an annual meeting each year, combined with educational sessions and networking activities in a regionally customized professional development conference.

The educational sessions explore the latest trends, challenges and solutions facing facilities organizations within colleges and universities; K-12 private academies and public school systems; libraries, museums, and other institutions of learning.

For more information about the conference, visit [RMA Annual Conference Links](#).



MSC07 4200
1 University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, NM 87131-0001

Phone: 505-277-2421



@UNMPPD

ppd.unm.edu

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.

A promotional poster for ISS Social & Happy Hour. The top section has a blue background with the text "ISS Social & Happy Hour" in white and blue. Below this is a dark purple banner with "You're Invited!" in white. The middle section features three small photos: a person holding a glass, two people at a table, and a plate of food. Below the photos is a dark purple banner with "@ The University Club" in white. The bottom section has a light blue background with the text "Spring 2017 Schedule" and a table of dates and times. At the very bottom, it says "A great way to network and get to know your fellow ISS colleagues. Relax, mingle and enjoy complimentary appetizers and non-alcoholic beverages." and "Beer, Wine and Cocktails Also Available for Purchase".

Wed 29 March	Wed 26 April	Wed 31 May
4:30PM	4:30PM	4:30PM