



May 5-18, 2017

Special Activities works their “magic” on campus year round by Rachel Stone

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21 convocations, a university-wide commencement ceremony, and numerous departmental celebrations were squeezed into just six days last week, a week which kept the Physical Plant Department’s (PPD) Special Activities unit very busy. With an inventory of approximately 2,250 folding chairs and 300 tables of various sizes available to rent, Special Activities was able to support all these events, while keeping university dollars on campus, and providing a level of service not found anywhere else.

“We are like the magic elves on campus!” said Jessica Regensberg, supervisor of Special Activities, with a laugh.

Regensberg spent weeks taking customer orders and organizing the inventory along with the delivery and pick up schedules for finals week; Saturday, or “graduation day,” being the most intense. Local vendors are organized by Regensberg for staging and pipe and drape at Johnson Center, as well as additional chairs, tables, and tents for various convocations, in addition to the furniture for The Pit commencement set up.

“Special Activities makes sure that everything is ready for the important celebrations that happen all over campus. No one sees us; we come in and set up for the event, and then show up to tear it all down once the event is over.”

Regensberg described the week’s events as “challenging” with a small Special Activities crew, heavy traffic on surface streets, and a deadline of 1:00 p.m. for the College of Education (COE) convocation on Saturday.

“Right after the main ceremony on graduation day, we had to immediately tear down the stage items in The Pit, including the flowers, to take to Johnson Center for the COE and Anderson School of Management convocations,” said Regensberg. “While some ceremonies are ending, there are several others about ready to start across campus that need our support.”

Regensberg said that a crew of eight PPD staff members



The Johnson Center College of Education and Anderson School of Management convocation set up. Photo credit: Jessica Regensberg



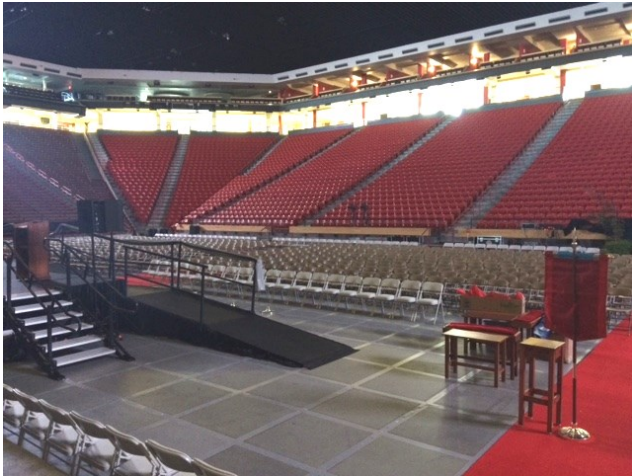
The PPD Special Activities crew from left: Nick Royle, Kevin de Leon, and Manuel Trujillo. Photo credit: Unknown

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“magic” continued...

worked on “graduation day” beginning at 8:00 a.m. to about 4:45 p.m.

PPD Special Activities provides support to the campus community for all special events and moving activities that occur on the Main, North, and South UNM campus. This PPD unit works year round to assist departments plan and execute their events from small get-togethers, to large events such as



All is set and ready to go for the 2017 UNM Commencement Ceremony.

Credit: Jessica Regensberg

UNM Commencement, Freshman Family Days, and Welcome Back Days. To pull off the logistics with a small crew of three, PPD Grounds & Landscaping often offer assistance.

“Not only are we supporting campus events, but we also assist departments with all kinds of on-campus moves throughout the year,” explains Regensberg. “If it weren’t for the Grounds & Landscaping staff to support us, we would not be able to provide the level of service we do to our customers.”

Regensberg said it is important for the Special Activities unit to be competitive with outside vendors, and feels that the service they provide is superior because of their knowledge of the campus, low prices with no delivery fees (Main Campus only), and an in-depth knowledge of UNM’s policies and standards regarding events. They also have a

working knowledge of the departments involved in event planning, such as Parking & Transportation Services, the UNM Police Department, Safety & Risk Services, and Student Activities, to name a few.

“Despite all the hard work, it’s worth it to see the graduates and their families happy and proud as they celebrate their accomplishments at UNM,” said Regensberg.

To learn more about the services provided by PPD Special Activities, [click here](#).

PPD Scholarship applications accepted until June 30, 2017

Applications are now being accepted for the Barber Memorial Scholarship and the M.F. Fifield Scholarship for the 2017-2018 academic years.

Awards for the second semester will be contingent upon satisfactory scholastic performance during the first semester (each scholarship provides \$300.00 per semester to the scholarship recipients).

These awards will be based on demonstrated academic performance, financial need, and educational program.

The University of New Mexico (UNM) students who are children of full-time or retired PPD employees, including high school graduates who have recently been accepted to UNM, are eligible to apply.

Applicants need not designate which award they want; the committee will select the most deserving student in each case. No one will be awarded both scholarships.

Application forms are available at the PPD Service Building front office or can be found online, by [clicking here](#). You may ask the administrative support staff for assistance, or you may call 277-2421, and they will send you a form. Complete the form, print, and return the completed form with grade transcripts to Mary Ann Montoya in the PPD office no later than June 30, 2017. (Please note: The application form indicates to enter your Social Security Number (SSN). If you are a UNM student, please enter your UNM ID# instead.)

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 April:



Congratulations to Jose "Lorenzo" Keryte who is a master painter in Area 3!! Lorenzo was nominated by Michael McCord, and his supervisor, Larry Whittle, said:

Jose "Lorenzo" Keryte has been working in the Physical Plant Department for more than 33 years and 23 of those years in Area 3. As the Master Painter, Lorenzo has provided outstanding service to Area 3 customers. His customers have provided excellent comments on his quick response and the quality of his craftsmanship. One customer even called him "Picasso." Lorenzo is a solid team member and a key contributor to making Area 3 a great place to work.



Congratulations to Athena Salazar who is an administrative assistant with HSC Custodial Services!! Athena was nominated by Shirley Mitchell, and she said:

I nominated Athena because she has done a lot to support me in my role as part of the PPD Management Team the last several months, and especially while Giovanna was out on leave at the beginning of the year. She supports a new initiative called Lunch with the Director, among many other things. Athena sends out all the invitations, orders the food, follows up with the staff to make sure they're attending, and ensures that everything runs smoothly each week. It's so nice to know that our lunch is taken care of with no worries. Athena is always willing to help with different tasks and is a great member of PPD's administrative team!



PPD Environmental Services prepares for summer concrete projects

As the spring semester draws to a close, The University of New Mexico's (UNM) Physical Plant Department (PPD) is gearing up to complete numerous sidewalk projects throughout the UNM campus. These projects are scheduled during times which will be the least disruptive to the campus community.

This summer, there are over a dozen projects scheduled to be completed. Several of these projects will be completed in order to comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Two projects will improve storm drainage on campus while other projects are addressing concrete walkways that have become trip hazards or have deterioration issues.



Barricades and flagging will be installed at each work location to protect pedestrians and workers. Construction activities may create a significant amount of noise and PPD requests the community's patience as these projects are completed. Please use caution when walking or driving in the vicinity of the construction zones.

Questions or concerns can be directed to Willie West, Associate Director of Environmental Services at 277-0615 or wwest@unm.edu, or Juan Garcia, Grounds and Landscaping Supervisor at 269-3467 or jbgarcia@unm.edu.

The following projects are scheduled to begin the week of May 15, 2017 (should be completed by the end of May 2017):

- Dane Smith Hall - remove and replace storm drain inlets with ADA compliant inlets.
- North side of Ortega Hall - remove brick inlays that have settled and install six inch concrete.
- Yale/Central entrance - use bricks from Ortega project to fill in empty tree planters.
- Tucker at AMAFCA channel - install sidewalk ramps at intersection of Tucker and Camino de Salud.
- Tucker at AMAFCA channel - remove and replace drive ramp for channel access with roll curbs to accommodate pedestrian access.
- 1717 Roma - replace concrete around meter cans. Replace meter cans that are damaged.

The following projects should begin by the end of May (should be completed by the middle of June 2017):

- East of Mitchell Hall at the Center of the Universe - remove and replace damaged concrete.
- Northeast of the Art Building - remove existing asphalt and install new concrete.
- North side of Woodward Hall - remove concrete to improve drainage. Install new concrete in existing unused planters. Replace existing drain inlets with ADA compliant inlets.
- Cornell Mall - remove and replace concrete from Southeast corner of the Student Union Building (SUB) to southern circle planter. Replace one existing drain inlet with ADA compliant inlet. (Please note: additional work may occur with this project.)
- Student Resident Center - remove and replace various sections of sidewalk throughout center.
- Hokona Zuni - remove and replace concrete sidewalks in courtyard.

PPD to host departmental Car & Motorcycle Show on May 19th



The Physical Plant Department (PPD) will host a car, truck, and motorcycle show this Friday, May 19th from 11am – 1pm just west of the Service Building (building 204). Come by and take a look at some of the interesting automotive hobbies/projects PPD staff are involved with on their spare time. There are a total of 12 vehicles and 5 motorcycles registered, and include a 1965 Cadillac Fleetwood, a 2006 Dodge Viper, a 1984 Pontiac Fiero Indianapolis 500 Pace Car, and 1987 Honda CR500 motorcycle. We hope to see you there!

PPD is highly represented on the 2017-2018 Staff Council

The University of New Mexico (UNM) Staff Council has elected its new 2017-2018 Executive Committee. The Executive Committee consists of four elected officers, four elected Members-at-Large and two Ex Officio (non-elected, non-voting) members. Congratulations to Mary Clark, UNM Sustainability manager, for her re-election as Staff Council Speaker.

The Physical Plant Department (PPD) now has four staff members represented on the Council:

- Jeffery Barkley, Master utilities maintenance mechanic with PPD Utilities, Grade 11 Councilor
- Mary Clark, UNM Sustainability Manager, Staff Council Speaker
- Charles King, Facilities Services Tech with PPD Area 3, Grade 7 Councilor
- Kristina Rucker, Service Call Coordinator with PPD Work Control, Grade 7 Councilor

Clark said in a statement, “I am deeply honored that Staff Council has once again elected me to serve as Speaker. This is my fifth year as Speaker and I very much enjoy working with the Councilors to advocate for staff to the UNM administration and legislators in Santa Fe. This year is the first time there are four employees from the Physical Plant Department serving on Staff Council. It is wonderful that PPD managers and supervisors have realized the importance of PPD representation on Staff Council and have allowed their staff the opportunity to serve. I originally ran for Staff Council in 2008 specifically to represent the staff of the Physical Plant Department because what we do is so vitally important to the mission of The University. Also, because our specific work needs and conditions are often overlooked.”

Congratulations to you Mary, and thank you to the other PPD employees who are representing our department on the Staff Council.



Staff Council President-Elect, Rob Burford, presenting Mary Clark with a plaque recognizing her past work as Staff Council Speaker. Photo credit: Kathy Meadows

Kudos

Hi Victor,

I wanted to let you know how much the Office of the President appreciates all the work you and your floor crew did to restore the wood floors at University House. We know it was a two week process of removing the scratches, cleaning, and polishing. They now look wonderful and really enhance the beauty of the house.

Many thanks to:

Bruce Anaya
Paul Benavidez
JR Lovato
John Sannar
Victor Tovar

Sincerely, Mary Clark

Hi Mark [Orgeron],

We greatly appreciate that the movers came early. I must say, that Manuel Trujillo and Kevin de Leon are among the most pleasant individuals we have worked with at UNM! Great attitude and sense of humor. Above all they are both very efficient. They were very quick in moving the boxes that had to be moved to the basement storage area from the third floor at Hokona. Your guys deserve more than a pat on the back. They are hard workers.

Thanks,
Joseph P. Sánchez, PhD

Director
Spanish Colonial Research Center

UNM | Staff Council **Staff Appreciation Luncheon**

Come help us
celebrate YOU!
Door prizes
including
FREE PARKING
for 1 year!

May 24, 2017
11 am-2 pm
SUB Ballrooms



Bring your
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FREE food ticket!

For more information: scouncil@unm.edu



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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.