Facilities and Services

AN OPEN LETTER TO ALL FACILITIES AND SERVICES EMPLOYEES FROM ASSISTANT VP GLEN HAUBOLD:

We were up at the “Bone-yard” on A-Mountain a while back, and I told our folks that I was embarrassed at the mess, because I thought NMSU should set the example for being responsible for our environment. Not only that, I don’t want people looking at that pollution and junk after we’re gone and saying, “Look what those folks in Facilities left behind”. This got me thinking about something I heard that made an impact on me and I wanted to share it with you.

Some of you know that because I teach the Supervisor’s Toolkit for the facilities professional’s organization APPA, I am fortunate enough to be able to travel to many other schools. At one conference where I taught, the University of Nebraska Athletic Director Tom Osborne delivered the keynote speech, and he talked about being called to the bedside when his predecessor, the legendary Nebraska football coach, Bob Devaney, was on his deathbed.

He said that Devaney asked him to lean over, and then whispered one question: “DID I MAKE A DIFFERENCE?”

Now, Osborne was a great coach in his own right, with a 255-49-3 record at Nebraska, and he looked at Devaney and said, “Bob, you won 101 football games, played in 9 bowl games, and won 2 national titles”.

“Yes, but did I make a difference?”
We all want to know that we matter, that in some small way we had an opportunity to make a difference while we were here. This is why I work in Facilities, and I suspect that many of you feel the same way.

Facilities and Services is the largest unit in the Administration and Finance division with nearly 300 employees. We have the Project Development and Engineering unit that manages both Capital Construction and small projects across the NMSU System; Facilities Operations, which is responsible for the physical operation and maintenance of NMSU Las Cruces I&G buildings as well as a central plant that produces 5 megawatts of electrical power and 5,000 tons of chilled water; and the Office of Environmental Health and Safety that is responsible for environmental compliance and the health and welfare of NMSU faculty, staff, and students at 12 Agricultural Science Centers and 4 Community Colleges in addition to the main campus in Las Cruces. Oversight of the business operations is provided by the Facilities Administration unit, an Environmental Policy Manager makes sure that sustainable practices are incorporated into all of our activities, and the University Architect and Campus Planning Officer oversees the NMSU Master Planning initiatives and an exciting new initiative to better utilize our existing space. The Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) provides emergency response for the NMSU main campus and also responds mutual aid to other departments in Dona Ana County and to the City of Las Cruces. DFES also provides fire prevention and other public education services and programs.

**OUR MISSION IS TO EFFICIENTLY PROVIDE A SAFE, WELL MAINTAINED, AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY** AND IT TAKES EVERY ONE OF YOU.

As we go into the holiday season and close out yet another calendar year, I want each of you to know that you make a difference every day, whether you keep the place clean for the faculty to teach, construct the building that cools the campus so the students can learn, plant the trees that will outlive and outlast us all, keep the power coming in and the sewage going out, or help keep the campus safe through both routine and emergency services.

We are a large and diverse group who no doubt celebrate a multitude of holidays, and whichever one you celebrate, I sincerely hope that each of you and your families have a joyous break and a safe and Happy New Year! And, for those of you who celebrate this holiday –

Merry Christmas...!

*Glen Haubold*
FACILITIES AND SERVICES
HOLIDAY NEWSLETTER

PERSONNEL
OUR MOST IMPORTANT RESOURCE

We would like to welcome: Charley Romero, David Holguin, Rene Marin, Jose Candel, and Rafael Najera to the Paint Shop; Leith Bishop in the Plumbing Shop; David Chacon and Pedro Felix to the Electric Shop; Rosario Estrada as a Custodial Worker; Yvonne Tellez as the HR Unit Coordinator; Derrick Wooton as a Safety Specialist; Mario Acosta as NMSU Fire Chief; and Eric Jasso as a Plant Operator.

PROMOTIONS...
Priscilla Carabajal to HR Representative; Steve Self to Space Planning Manager; Albert Arocha to Master Electrician; Gary Martinez to Lead Structural Maintenance; Daniel Carrera to HVAC Mechanic; Michelle Bustillos to Senior Custodian; and Enrique Murillo to Senior Groundskeeper.

...A NICE WAY TO START THE NEW YEAR

AND FAREWELL TO..

Jose Mendoza, Fire Captain; Ron Fisher, Building Maintenance; and Francisca Minjarez in Custodial.

..RETIirement IS A NICE WAY TO START THE NEW YEAR, TOO.
INVENTORY
Thanks to all who worked on the Facilities and Services inventory. We appreciate your hard work.

NMSU FIRE CHIEF
Mario Acosta joined us at NMSU on December 3rd. Chief Acosta started with the Farmington Fire Department in 1986, and then left in 2007 as the operations battalion chief. He worked in Arizona and California before landing at a station in suburban Seattle in 2010. Acosta most recently was the deputy fire chief of the Woodinville (Washington) Fire and Rescue District until his position was eliminated this summer as part of budget cuts.

"I feel like we're coming home," said Acosta, who was driving Thursday afternoon on the road between Phoenix and Las Cruces — speaking through a hands-free device, of course.

Acosta has spent most of his life in New Mexico, and his wife and daughter are Aggies. His wife, Carrie, has been pursuing an online degree in human resources.

Acosta holds a master's degree in public management from Northern Arizona University and an undergraduate degree from Eastern New Mexico University.

NMSU's fire department employs four career firefighters and 14 student firefighters.
If you haven’t heard, **Greg Vogel** will be leaving NMSU after the first of the year.

We wish **Greg** well and for the remainder of the Strategic Planning sessions **Esther Amezquita** and **Melissa Fernandez** will assume the leadership of the committee until the Strategic Plan is complete.

The work of the committee was sidetracked with the Strategic Plan, but the operation of the **Gate** was the first issue that they tackled. Just so that everyone is aware, I have met with the committee and offered to return the gate to being “free access” during the day if we would all assume responsibility for reporting violations of personal vehicles. The committee felt that this would not be a workable solution, but we would be interested in **YOUR** input. If we could all agree to work together to police the yard, we could open the gate during the day as was done before. If not, we can reverse the “entry” and “exit” as suggested by the committee and make changes to the recycling area in the next BRR cycle. Please let us hear from you, as we want the Internal Advisory Committee to be responsive.

In addition, the Internal Advisory Committee made recommendations about inventory and the warehouse, and the new Director of Purchasing **Rennette Apodaca** (Congratulations!) is working with Facilities and Services on these.
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY
This is the time of year for cleaning up and clearing out the “old” before the New Year. Environmental Health and Safety and Facilities and Services Operations have again partnered with a big clean-up of the bone-yard in preparation for a fresh start this New Year.

Remember to label your holiday packages with care because you may forget what they contain after they are under wrap for a while. The same goes for containers of chemicals and industrial products especially when they are not used up quickly. The labels often fade with wear and the outer wrapping may not remain intact. We remind everyone to label all containers as they are being used so that we know how to safely handle and ultimately dispose of them. It saves time, money, and makes it easier for all.

CENTER FOR THE ARTS RIBBON CUTTING
The ribbon cutting ceremony for the Center for the Performing Arts was held on December 14th. It’s not quite open, but is going to be a great facility.

SATELLITE PLANT RIBBON CUTTING
Facilities and Services celebrated the Satellite Plant ribbon cutting on December 4th, and afterwards conducted tours of the plant. This facility is truly QUR facility, and we want to thank everyone who worked on or supported both of these great projects.
**WINTER BREAK PROJECTS...**
Facilities and Services has a number of projects scheduled over the winter break. These are the authorized projects that we are aware of, and if you are on campus, we encourage you to pay attention to your surroundings and report any suspicious activity:

- Project Activities
- Shop and Maintenance Activities

...AND WE WANT TO THANK THOSE OF YOU WHO GIVE UP ALL OR PART OF YOUR HOLIDAY TO ACCOMPLISH WORK THAT BENEFITS ALL OF US

**PICTURES IN THIS ISSUE**
Pictures in this issue are from the Facilities and Services Workforce meetings.
Glen Haubold
Assistant Vice President for Facilities
Facilities and Services
New Mexico State University

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