

FACILITIES AND SERVICES AWARDS NEWSLETTER

PERSONNEL

OUR MOST IMPORTANT RESOURCE

Charles Strickland served as NMSU's Physical Plant director for 45 years, from 1911 through 1956. In honor of his long service to our organization, the Strickland Award was created in 1997 to recognize individuals who have rendered exceptional service to the organization that is now Facilities and Services.

This past year, we dropped the "Office of..." from our name, because Facilities and Services is a division with approximately 300 employees consisting of Environmental Health and Safety, Facility Operations, Business Administration, Project Development and Engineering, the Office of Sustainability, and the Office of the University Architect, Campus Planning, and Space Management.

This issue of the Facilities and Services newsletter is devoted to the Strickland Award winners, the winner of the new AVP's Award, and the personnel of Facilities and Services. We appreciate all of you.



GREG VOGEL
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

Katrina Doolittle, director of environmental health and safety, wrote this about Greg Vogel:

"In the six years that Greg has been employed by NMSU, he has consistently provided high quality, dedicated and professional level work in Environmental Health and Safety. Much of the effort in the safety profession goes unnoticed unless something goes terribly wrong. Greg Vogel's efforts may be unknown to most and yet he plays a major role in the safe handling and disposal of about 80,000 pounds of hazardous wastes each year.

Greg's position is Hazardous Materials Specialist HZWPER and he goes the extra mile. The unusual acronym signifies his position to have a unique specialization associated with identifying hazardous materials with field chemistry testing. At NMSU, Greg routinely performs the hazmat analysis to determine the contents of unlabeled hazardous materials containers. This work is considered to have

a higher level of hazard because the test material is completely unknown. With specialized training, Greg was glad to expand his position function to include these hazardous duties. It is cost effective for NMSU to have his technical services readily available.

When it comes to pulling for the team, Greg is regularly taking on an extra load. The additional duties include teaching safety classes (especially the Defensive Driving and Hazardous Waste), taking on special projects that are in addition to his regular work load, and responding to unplanned situations that occur outside of business hours. Greg



OUR GOALS

- ✚ QUALITY, TIMELY, COMPETITIVE, VALUE ADDED SERVICES
- ✚ CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT OF CORE BUSINESS PLAN
- ✚ INNOVATION AND SUSTAINABILITY
- ✚ PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND RECOGNITION

Greg makes the extra effort to ensure that the outcome of his work is of high quality and very professional. He takes on challenges and treats them as an opportunity to learn and grow. There are many situations of this type that have occurred and several have been responses to reported hazards that happened in the evening or on a holiday when he immediately responded from home.

During the 2011 weather closure of the NMSU campus, there was a hazardous waste quarterly shipment that had to be completed, loaded, and shipped to the disposal facility to insure compliance with EPA rules. The campus was closed and the roads were icy. In the sub-freezing temperatures, the waste storage building was barely staying above freezing temperatures. The waste shipment was a critical function that could not be performed by the supervisor alone. The other team members had a long drive to work that could have been dangerous because of the road conditions. Greg had been ill for several days previously but he offered to come in to help because he lived within a close distance. He wore a respirator to protect his lungs from the cold and to protect others from his illness. The crew safely loaded 100 drums of hazardous waste that icy, cold morning; that's enough drums to fill a full size semi-trailer. Without Greg's help, it would have been almost impossible to accomplish this shipment safely and on time. Greg is a committed team member, exceptionally considerate of others, and he puts NMSU success above his own. Greg Vogel consistently goes above and beyond for NMSU."





STAN DYER

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING

Jack Kirby, executive director of project development and engineering, tells us this about Stan Dyer:

“Stan Dyer is a true asset to NMSU through his role as project manager in Facilities and Services. He deftly manages a large load of diverse projects, keeps his customers up to date on progress, and fiercely protects his schedules and budgets. In addition, Stan

has shown true leadership by taking the initiative to improve internal processes, training others in our work management software, and staying involved with the engineering group by assisting with technical designs. Many decisions he has made regarding project management have morphed their way into departmental procedures. The Strickland Award represents recognition for those who go above and beyond...and Stan certainly exemplifies this philosophy. “



OMAR MORENO

FACILITY OPERATIONS

Executive Director of Facility Operations Tim Dobson wrote about Omar Moreno:

“Mr. Moreno is totally committed to the mission of Facilities and Services. He focuses on what is important and leads by example. His willingness to look for a better way to do things and learn from

the process is commendable. He has a passion for getting the job done the first time without compromising his work standards. He does not make promises to our customers that he can't keep. He is dedicated to servicing our customers and will go the extra mile to meet a commitment to a customer. His commitment, dedication, and dependability are the driving force behind the Facilities and Services Aggie Recycling Program being ranked as one of the top five in the nation. Mr. Moreno is a valued asset to the organization.”





MATT OCHOA
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Kelly Brooks, executive director of facilities administration, had this to say about Matt Ochoa:

“He is well respected by all throughout NMSU who work with him. He is knowledgeable and quick to respond and is always willing to look for improvements to processes or procedures. I have come to rely upon him heavily and his organizational and leadership skills continue to strengthen our office. “

Others in his work unit write:

“He is extremely organized and conscientious. Additionally, he exhibits exceptional customer service skills by responding to all project related inquiries and issues in a timely and friendly manner. “

“Matt is always willing to help others. When there is a problem of any kind, he is willing to step in and give advice to help us resolve it. For example: helping Karen with the spreadsheets and/or giving advice to Maria on her work. Even when I ask him a stupid question, he is always willing to give me advice on how to handle the problems. He is doing an excellent job and I like working with him.”



OUR VALUES

-  **A SAFE ENVIRONMENT**
-  **PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION**
-  **INTEGRITY AND ACCOUNTABILITY**
-  **OPEN AND RESPECTFUL COMMUNICATION**
-  **TEAMWORK AND PARTNERSHIP**

“...there are many reasons why he deserves this award. He is so knowledgeable about the Capital Project side of things. He works really well with both sides of the house in being able to provide whatever information is needed, whether it is project info or accounting data. He knows his deadlines and almost always has his reports done prior to having to be asked for them. This is something I know makes everyone’s work so much easier. The accounts



payable staff really works well with him and really appreciates the guidance he provides to them in relation to their own position. He's a good professional mentor. Overall he is a real team player, hard worker and just overall nice guy who represents Facilities and Services at the highest level.

AVP'S AWARD

The Strickland Award was created in 1997, and for the last two years one employee from each of the major work units has been selected. I rely heavily on the departments and / or unit heads to provide input for these awards, but this year I am adding the AVP's Award. Like the Sometimes Monday Morning Memo, this award will be given out annually or whenever the AVP feels like it. This award will be to recognize an employee or group of employees for a significant achievement or collection of outstanding work representative of the facilities and services values, goals, and mission.

When you're the boss, you come to the realization very quickly that rarely do you have the full details about what really goes on. You do quickly develop a tremendous appreciation for the many people who suit up and show up every day, and who quietly present the organization in a positive light by executing their work with little fanfare.

Alton has quite a few nice (and true) things to say below, but I want to note that this past year the winner of the award managed the construction of the Barnes and Noble Bookstore and the first phase of Chamisa II. For this past year, Henry has tackled challenge after challenge with these two projects, and both projects met their budget and deadlines. For these measurable achievements, I'd like to acknowledge **ENRIQUE (HENRY) ESPALIN OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING** as the first recipient of the AVP's Award.



ENRIQUE (HENRY) ESPALIN PROJECT DEVELOPMENT AND ENGINEERING

"Enrique (Henry) Espalin has been in the Facilities and Services Project Development and Engineering office since May of 2007. During this period, Henry has quietly completed 46 projects worth a value of \$59,000,000. Henry's most recent accomplishments are the Barnes and Noble Bookstore, Chamisa II Apartments, and now, the 10" Waterline Rehabilitation projects. The Barnes and Noble Bookstore project contained unusual cost accounting issues to overcome. Due to the size and configuration of Chamisa II, Henry developed a very large and unique 1,300 + line item schedule of values to track this project's cost. As with any successful project, the outcome is a reflection of the person guiding the process. Henry's ability to fill this role is impressive.





On the personal level, Henry comes to work every day, intent on giving NMSU a 110% effort. His depth of construction knowledge; ability to resolve technical or difficult problems; and the manner in which he addresses the client and university needs; are far beyond his youthful age. Those who know and work with Henry appreciate his integrity and self control, and, thank him for coming to work every day. He is an incredible resource.”

PROMOTIONS / HIRES...

PRISCILLA CARABAJAL has joined us our associate fiscal assistant, some of you may remember her from when she worked in the Central Purchasing Office. Welcome!

FAREWELL TO..

FAREWELL TO JOHN GILKINSON (CENTRAL PLANT) and SALVADOR HERRERA (CUSTODIAL), who have announced their decision to retire, joining **JERRY GUTIERREZ (HVAC), RAMON ALVAREZ (VEHICLE MAINTENANCE), AND GEORGE HERRERA (CUSTODIAL)** who had previously announced their retirement. We'll miss them all.

CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

- **APPA SUPERVISOR'S TOOLKIT / DESERT APPA REGIONAL GROUP**

NMSU will host the APPA Supervisor's Toolkit from February 27 to March 1, 2012. Also, on the afternoon of March 1st, UTEP and NMSU facilities and EHS folks will hold the initial meeting of Desert APPA. Other invitees include the NMSU Community Colleges, El Paso Community College, and the Texas Tech Health Science Center – El Paso.

FACILITIES INTERNAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

GREG VOGEL will be starting the meetings of the Facilities and Services Internal Advisory Committee in the next month or two. We have asked for volunteers from each group or work unit. If you are interested in serving on this committee, please contact **GREG** or me.

To date, our volunteers include Damon W. Garland (Access Control), Ruben Madero (Paint), Juan C. Garnica (Structural Maintenance), Ester Amezquita (Grounds), Orlando Flores (Grounds), David Avalos (Plumbing), Tom Rubadeau (Electrical), Mark Blachford (Mechanical), Henry Espalin, (Project Development and Engineering), and Roe Day (Project Development and Engineering).

PICTURES IN THIS ISSUE

..were submitted this month from the Grounds Department:



Glen Haubold
Assistant Vice President for Facilities
Facilities and Services
New Mexico State University

OUR MISSION IS TO EFFICIENTLY PROVIDE A SAFE, WELL MAINTAINED, AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY.

