Sometimes Monday Morning Memo

Environmental Health Safety & Risk Management (EHS&RM) Improved Alignment of Staff

BY: Katrina Doolittle, Executive Director of EHS&RM

EHS&RM is happy to announce a recent change and improved alignment of our staff and operations. We are being nimble and adjusting as we go!

Environmental programs including indoor air quality and related hazardous materials activities (mold, asbestos, lead) are, and will continue to be, performed by Mike Nevarez. We are excited that Jack Kirby will now oversee the program management to better align technical work functions and help to balance the workload. This allows Polly Wagner, Eileen Nevarez and Jose Gamon to focus on occupational safety, incident documentation, and improvements in risk management.

Over the past year, we experienced a 30% drop in worker injuries, several unfortunate large property losses and new services in risk management. The increased work is worth it. Eileen has been facilitating third party insurance claims recovery for all departments which saves $2,500 for each claim and there are numerous auto accidents caused by third parties. The process improvements for internal claims such as regular follow ups has resulted in no insured denials related to missed timelines.

Restorative Floor Work After Hazardous & Waste Removal

BY: Katrina Doolittle, Executive Director of EHS&RM

Environmental Health Safety & Risk Management safely ships about 11,000 pounds of hazardous and special waste for disposal every quarter. This includes waste management coordination with the generators from labs and shops to ensure good customer service and compliance. For disposal, several different contractors each with specialty are used which is more cost effective. This quarter, after all hazardous waste was removed, our Facilities and Services custodial staff transformed the facility with their excellent restorative floor work.

People – Our Most Important Resource -
**WELCOME ABOARD TO:**

Megan Mattie, Accounting, Student Aide; Gabriel Martinez, Student Assistant; Noah Adams, Space Planning, Student Assistant; Victor Perez, Instrumentation & Controls Tech; Clarissa Calderon, Fiscal Assistant, Assoc.; and Chris Espana, Painter.

**BEST WISHES TO:**

Bud Geng, Project Manager; Kimberly Acosta, Accountant, Sr.; Kiri Baca, Student Assistant; Araceli Garcia, Student Assistant; Les Alejo, Plumber Lead; and Nivia Franco, Project Manager.

**Professional Milestones**

Congratulations to Ozzie Gorbitz who received his New Mexico EMT-I license. Ozzie is currently the only student NMSU firefighter that has obtained his license.

**Great Job!**

It is always nice to hear when FS employees do a great job for the NMSU community. Below are a couple of emails received:

*Mark, I wanted to let you know that we are grateful to your shop and the excellent services of your employees in getting our recent plumbing problems fixed in the Skeen Hall greenhouse areas. Truman and Gerardo initially came out to inspect, and later on, Gerardo followed up in repairing all of the problems including a new greenhouse water outlet, cleaning out the headhouse sink traps, and replacing the industrial sink hose with gun. He even found several other issues that he is in the process of fixing that we users would have never found (crack in small sink trap and remounting of industrial hose to wall). We are fortunate to have the services of your shop as well as those of other Facilities and Services shops. We could not do our jobs without your timely assistance and your employees are always kind, courteous, and professional. Thanks again for your indispensable services.*

Geno A. Picchioni, Professor

*Good morning Mark,*

*I am passing credit where credit is due. My daughter had a 2 night recital at Music building, Atkinson Auditorium last Thursday and Friday. She dances for Michelle’s Dance Academy. There were 200 plus attendees each night. Some of the parents mentioned to me that we (NMSU) Mechanical shop did a great job with the temperature in the building. The parents obviously did not know I no longer work for NMSU. The compliments were All IN GOOD TASTE. So on behalf of Michelle’s Dance Academy & the parents/dancers thank you for a job well done!! NMSU MECHANICAL SHOP YOU GUYS ROCK!!!!! THANK YOU.*

J. Ramirez
Where’s all that water coming from?
Each year during the months of June and July NMSU’s firefighters and plumbers conduct flow tests and inspections of all 180 fire hydrants on NMSU’s main campus, following NFPA guidelines. Facilities and Services sends out dirty water notices to our community during this time to lessen the impact to those on campus.

As part of the process, each hydrant is opened to exercise the mechanical components while the firefighters and plumbers are watching the gauges and documenting the actual pressures. These pressures are later entered into a reporting software that will calculate the actual water flow in gallons per minute that each individual hydrant is capable of. If a problem is encountered, repairs are coordinated through the AiM work order system to get them fixed right away.

Insurance Service Office uses the information from the hydrant flow testing when calculating public protection classification ratings, otherwise known as ISO ratings. 50% of the score is based on the fire department’s emergency response capability, 40% of the rating is based on the water distribution system and the remaining 10% is based on emergency dispatch capability. Scores are 1-10, with 1 being the best and 10 the worst.

NMSU enjoys a public protection classification of a 2, which equates to being in the top 3% in the nation amongst all fire departments that ISO rates. A great water distribution system is a major reason for the high rating.

CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION RESPONSE TEAM EXERCISE

BY: KATRINA DOOLITTLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF EHS&RM

The Emergency Planning Committee, with Stephen Lopez facilitating, conducted an engaging exercise focused on a scenario involving an international terrorist incident and our local NMSU response. The exercise engaged the Central Administration Response Team (CART), resource personnel and several other University Administrative Council members in an open discussion of important steps and response plans that focused on the human impact, communications, economic and political issues and acknowledged the potential financial and reputational impacts. This exercise meets many university needs along with satisfying certain accreditation and regulatory requirements.
ESPINA STREET REPAVING-PHASE ONE

BY DICKIE APODACA, PROJECT MANAGER

Espina Street within NMSU campus starts at University Avenue and continues south through campus. Phase one was the portion starting at University Avenue leading south for 1,500 feet up to the intersection of south Horseshoe Street. The project included total reconstruction of the asphalt surface, new painted pavement marking and upgraded ADA ramps. The duration of the project was 60 calendar days.

The road was designed and constructed to provide a 20-year life. This was accomplished by analyzing the existing soil conditions, to a depth up to five feet below the surface, and proposed traffic loads, prior to determining the new pavement structure.

Considering Espina Street is one of the busiest streets on campus, pedestrian and vehicle traffic was a very critical element to this project. Alternate routes for traffic were provided, utilizing construction signing, assuring everyone had access to NMSU.

Contractor construction schedules were strictly enforced on this project to assure the road was open to traffic in time for the 2019 NMSU graduations. Even though there were a number of unforeseen delays, all lost time did not keep students and visitors from driving on the road as scheduled. Some of the delays were bad weather and unknown buried utilities. Espina Street was opened to traffic at 12:00 pm on Friday, May 10, 2019.

A collaborative effort of divisions from within Facilities and Services Department including, Signs, Structural, Mechanical and Electrical Shops, as well as Environmental Health and Risk Management, added to the success of Espina Street Repaving Phase One Project.

BEFORE PHOTO:

AFTER PHOTO:
FIRE AT ARROWHEAD PARK EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL

BY LOUIS HUBER, DEPUTY FIRE CHIEF

At approximately 12:30 p.m. on June 10, 2019, NMSU Fire Department responded to Early College High School Administration Building in reference to an odor of smoke inside. NMSU FD arrived at the front of the building, and found no smoke was showing, no alarms were activated, and the occupants of the building had not been evacuated.

NMSU FD personnel were informed that there had been an odor of smoke inside the building when the heating unit operated, and the unit kept cycling on and off. There was no visible smoke inside the building and the odor had dissipated. While NMSU FD personnel were investigating, occupants east and outside of the Administration Building informed them, “That flames were visible on the roof and possibly an air conditioner.”

NMSU FD personnel laddered the building to check the roof area and confirmed an active natural gas fueled fire was burning the HVAC unit on the northwest corner of the building. Early College High School maintenance staff were instructed to turn the electricity off to all the HVAC units on the roof and NMSU FD personnel used a 20 lb. dry chemical extinguisher to extinguish the fire in the HVAC motor and control area.

Then NMSU FD personnel shut off the natural gas and electrical supplies to that HVAC unit, so the other units could be turned back on. All fire and smoke damage was confined to the HVAC unit and did not spread into the building.

NMSU CONTRIBUTES TO ESRI WORLD TOPOGRAPHIC MAP

BY SUZANNE MONTES, SPACE PLANNING MANAGER

NMSU Facilities Space Planning data contribution has been published to the Esri World Topographic Map. The NMSU Las Cruces campus information will be freely available to ArcGIS users. NMSU Facilities Space Planning contributed multiple features and data to Esri’s ArcGIS Online Community Maps Program. This information will be added to Esri basemaps and the Living Atlas of the World. As a whole, the World Topographic Map receives 10-15 million visits per month, and this number keeps growing. Esri appreciates NMSU’s contribution in helping build the Living Atlas of the World. Facilities Space Planning will continue to work on data contributions for the branch and remote campuses. (For more information on the Community Maps Program, visit https://communitymaps.arcgis.com/.)
FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

1. Ronnie Salinas removing debris along Frenger Mall
2. Ramiro Carrillo and Chris Rausch cleaning around Engineering Complex
3. Ronnie Salinas and Chris Rausch planting Crêpe Myrtle at Astronomy
4. Chris Rausch planting shrubs at Hadley Hall
5. Chris Rausch working on planters at Music Hall
6. Planting Hadley Hall with summer color (Lantana)
DAMAGE FROM MAY 2019 STORM
Facilities and Services

FACILITIES AND SERVICE ANNUAL EMPLOYEE APPRECIATION PICNIC

WHAT’S WRONG WITH THIS PICTURE

NO SMOKING
WITHIN 25 FT.
OF BUILDING

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Do you ever wonder how Facilities and Services does things? It starts with continual improvements like Environmental Health Safety and Risk Management’s staff realignment to meet new and broader risk management duties. Striving for the best – did you know our University Fire Department’s ISO rating is in the top 3% of rated departments in the nation? That floor looks like new after 11,000 pounds of waste sat on it for months, very cool! Making the campus beautiful never stops- regardless of what Mother Nature throws at us. There’s continual renewal through construction projects. Oh yeah, recognizing we also make mistakes, makes us better, even though it takes a little time to find them (we have no idea how long that sign was in place!). Finally, it is our great employees that keep the water running, fires out, and everything moving. You are incredibly good at what you do every day. Thank you!

Alton Looney

Interim Associate Vice President for Facilities
One Team / One Goal

Our mission is to efficiently provide a safe, well maintained, and environmentally sustainable university community...

...and it takes each and every one of you.

And as always — thank you for all that you do!