

# FACILITIES FOCUS

ASSET • Central Plant • Client Support Services • Energy & Engineering  
Environmental & Resource Services • FS Administration • Maintenance Services

APRIL 2024



**Turf removal at Lot 1**  
(UCR/Erin Chapman)



## Opportunities for FS staff

If you are looking for professional development, consider APPA. They offer certifications, webinars, conferences, a supervisor's toolkit, and more.

The Association of Physical Plant Administrators, or APPA, is the gathering place for facilities professionals from universities, schools, libraries, and museums.

Create an APPA account at [appa.org](http://appa.org) and start learning about the resources available to all FS employees.

Want to attend a conference? Talk with your supervisor and submit a purchase/travel request through the FS Staff Portal at [facilities.ucr.edu](http://facilities.ucr.edu).

## OUR LANDSCAPE IMPROVEMENTS



**Turf grass renovation at the HUB**  
(UCR/Mark Jones)

The Landscape Services team added native plants, trees, and cobblestone to Lot 1. The new garden requires 58% less water and supports UCR's designation as a Bee Friendly campus.

Groundskeepers **Steve Martinez** and



**Irrigation replacement at Rivera Library**  
(UCR/Mark Jones)

**Joseph Whatley** removed and seeded new turf at the HUB, covering 17K sq. ft.

Irrigators **Barry McMichael**, **Robert Dixon**, and **Ray Sanchez** replaced two, 60s era irrigation water gate valves. The valves are the largest irrigation water supply on the campus.

# KUDOS GOES TO...

Plumbers **Steve Crook, Jeff Wyrick, Omar Medel** and **Rich Cordova** for repairing a leak on a 12" water main outside of the Genomics building. They shut down and repaired the broken pipe during off hours to minimize the impact to research buildings.



**Greenhouse 1 mechanical room.** (UCR/Bill Hensche)



**Spieth Hall mechanical room.** (UCR/Bill Hensche)

HVAC Mechanic **Alex Forero** for working on the yearly steam trap survey and checking for failed or unidentified steam traps. These traps are located in the buildings, mechanical rooms, tunnels, and greenhouses throughout campus. This helps identify areas FS can conserve on energy lost in the steam system.

Lead Electrician **Brian Hambleton** and Electrical Supervisor **Kirk Quash** for planning a major

campus electrical outage to occur off hours. The outage was required for supporting the School of Business construction project.

**Roland Perez, Robert Wessler,** and **Egar Taasefor** from the Building Mechanical/HVAC shop for taking time to clean mechanical rooms and fresh air intakes on campus. This included removing leaves and other collected debris. This will improve efficiency for building air handlers to condition buildings.



**Fellows Liz Vazquez and Tom Vo demonstrate Styrofoam recycling.** (UCR/Erin Chapman)

## Visit our booth event

Sustainability Showcase & Flea Market  
**Wednesday, April 17**  
 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
 Rivera Library Lawn

## FS EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT SURVEY

Supervisors will meet with employees to discuss the 2023 survey results and possible solutions.

Primary topics brought up in the survey include:

- Requesting tools and equipment
- Easier purchasing process
- Leadership trainings for supervisors
- Job skills training for employees
- Recognition

# FACILITIES FOCUS

## STAFF MILESTONES

**20 YEARS**

Chad Chambers  
Project Manager

**25 YEARS**

Pedro Hurtado  
Grounds Equipment Operator

## ORGANIZATIONAL UPDATES

### FAMIS 360

- Working with Accruent on opportunities to enhance user experience.
- Hiring temporary support for PM and ICAMP work.

### DECARB STUDY

- Data gathering and meeting with executive leadership.

### INSETS PROGRAM

- Setting Engineering 95% done.
- Identified \$1.4 M in new projects for 2024/2025.

### ZERO WASTE

- Promoting program to campus.
- Burrtec instituting Styrofoam recycling in blue bins.
- Reuse opportunities with surplus furniture.

## CELEBRATING NEW STAFF!



**ANGELA DE LA CRUZ**  
 SR. CUSTODIAN  
 STARTED MARCH 25

