survive. The educators who believed in him and did not allow his dreams to end. His story is of hope, the immigrants hope, the idea that getting an education will open doors and create opportunities in these United States, the land of equal opportunity.

It is stories like these that reinforce the idea that Universities play a vital role in helping us mold and educate citizens. As we struggle with immigration reform, let us open our minds to thoughts and dialogue that values diversity. Let us consider the idea that diversity is destiny and that young people like Jose Antonio Vargas are a resource we need to cultivate, nurture and embrace. Who, one day as Americans, could be contributing members to the success of a great nation. This is one of those moments in history that defines a nation.

The compliments of these two former university presidents are a tribute to the hard work and dedication each of you brings to your job every day. While Facilities and FSS Planning are the most involved in these changes in the campus appearance, “it takes a village” as they say to make this possible. All of you who are involved in providing customer service to students, faculty or other staff make Texas State attractive to the students who generate the resources to make these projects possible.

Admissions once again has a record number of applications from high school seniors and potential transfer students for the fall. Texas State continues to be in the top five public or private universities in the state in terms of the number of applications, transcripts and SAT/ACT scores received. Somebody had to make Texas State “rising star of Texas” and you deserve as much credit as anyone. And you’ve done this over the last decade with a significant shortage of resources for new staff positions and M&O budgets. Help in that regard may be on the way. Today, as the General Appropriations Act makes its way through the Senate and House of the Texas Legislature, we have the first real increase in funding for current operations in ten years in both bills. The Senate version would provide approximately $9 Million more per year in funding for operations and the House version has approximately $6 Million more per year. You will recall that State General Revenue funding for operations per student and adjusted for inflation has been in decline for a decade. It will take several more years of this level of new funding to get back to pre-2003 levels, but this is an encouraging start. As of the date of this writing there are still two more months to go in the Session and a lot can happen. I’ll keep my fingers crossed, though, that we might be back on the upswing in terms of funding.

Have an idea...a question...a concern? Bill Nance will visit offices for his monthly Brown Bag sessions on the following dates.

Thursday, April 11 Facilities Management 12:00p.m - 1:00p.m
Wednesday, May 13 Human Resources 11:30a.m - 12:30p.m
Thursday, June 13 Grounds Operations 12:00p.m - 1:00p.m

FSS Essentials is published quarterly by the FSS Newsletter Committee:
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Loren Brown (LJB36@txstate.edu)
MaryAnn Hollingsworth (MH70@txstate.edu)
Bill Hollingsworth (WH14@txstate.edu)
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We encourage you to send personal and professional news, photos, articles, Dates to Remember, and other newsletter submissions to any committee member.
Dates To Remember

- April 1 – 30 • National Autism Awareness Month
- April 7 • Holocaust Remembrance Day
- April 15 • Tax Day (taxes due)
- April 16 • Vendor/Travel Fair, LBJS Center Ballroom
- April 19 • FSS Annual Employee Appreciation Picnic, Sewell Park
- April 22 • Earth Day

- April 24 • Administrative Professional Day (thank your Administrative Assistant for all they do)
- April 25 • Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day
- April 26 • Arbor Day
- May 1 – 31 • Jewish-American Heritage Month
- May 3 • Day of Peace
- May 4 • Star Wars Day
- May 5 • Cinco De Mayo
- May 8 • National Teacher Day
- May 9 – 11 • Commencement
- May 12 • Mother’s Day
- May 17 • Endangered Species Day
- May 27 • Armed Forces Day
- May 28 • Memorial Day (Texas State holiday)
- June 1 – 30 • Children’s Awareness Month
- June 5 • Gay and Lesbian Pride Month
- June 8 • Best Friends’ Day
- June 14 • Flag Day
- June 16 • Father’s Day
- June 22 • “Juneteenth” (Emancipation Day)
- June 23 • First day of Summer
- July 4 • Independence Day
- August 31 • Labor Day (Texas State holiday)

Remember

- Please refer to UPPS 04.04.32 for all details.

What Makes A Division Great?

Ana M. Webb sends kudos to Marty Garcia for a job well done and “going the extra mile to make my office sparkly!” Fabulous!

Paula Alvarez, Custodial Operations, receives kudos from Chad Wende for doing such a fine job keeping the Nueces building so clean. Keep up the good work!

Katie Bonner, Human Resources, was recognized by Linda Sterling for her taking time out of her busy schedule to assist her with the office location changes on the Faculty/Staff Directory. Great job!

Lupita Mireles would like to express her sincere gratitude towards Bobbie Brandenburg, Selma Selvera, and Roxie Weaver, Human Resources. She has enjoyed working with each of you and appreciates your kindness, patience, and professionalism. Bobbie, Selma and Roxie also receive two thumbs up from Carole Brauer-Dykema for helping her navigate through the Human Resources processes. Great teamwork!

Another shout out to Bobbie Brandenburg, this time from Nancy Covel. She appreciates Bobbie helping her through the EAWS hiring system. She states, “I could not have gotten through that maze of information without your calm and professional help.” Way to go!

Jon Gaddis, would like to send out his appreciation to Miguel Machado and Larry Rodriguez, both from the paint shop. They went above and beyond to help a fellow employee that could not find a dumpster – he was hauling a large amount of trash up hill and these two gentlemen offered their help by telling him that he could put all the trash in the back of their truck and they would take it to the nearest dumpster. “Both of these men showed great teamwork and it is great to see the willingness to help one another.” Outstanding!

Heather Phillips and Heather Steed, Human Resources, were complimented by Shirley Pilas for their assistance through the Human Resources Benefits. One more kudos goes out to Heather Phillips: Terry Hernandez would like to acknowledge you for your quick response and all your patience. Awesome!

Chad Wende appreciates Heather Bristow and Val Marrocco of Custodial Operations for being so helpful while he was working on the water fountain. They made sure to keep the work area clean. Great job!

Wellness...At Your Pace

Was weight loss or exercise part of your New Year’s resolution? Has it started to dwindle or left your life completely? Get back in it with one of the great benefits of being a regular Texas State employee. In UPPS 04.04.32, with approval from the appropriate authority, the policy states that employees may receive release time for wellness activity on Texas State campus. Activities that qualify for release time are: physical exercise, health screenings or appraisals, stress management classes, smoking cessation classes, weight loss classes, nutrition classes, health risk or injury reduction classes, cardiopulmonary resuscitation classes, and first aid classes.

There are several opportunities here on campus between the Student Recreation Center and the Total Wellness Program. The Student Recreation Center offers a cardio area, eight basketball/volleyball courts, two badminton courts, a weight room, outdoor track, six racquetball courts, a rock wall, climbing center and a natatorium.

Electronics Recycling Event

With rapid advance in electronics technology and its exponential growth, computers and other electronic devices are outdated and replaced approximately every two years. Some of the electronic devices that are recycled, like the above, are not destined for end of their use. Unfortunately only about 20% is recycled.

E-waste represents more than 70% of the toxic waste in our landfills. Some of the toxins found in the e-waste that ends up in the landfills are lead, mercury, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, and some types of flame retardants chemicals, all of which are poisonous at varying exposure levels.

Electronic devices such as computers, monitors, keyboards and mice, televisions, mobile devices contain precious metals such as gold, silver, palladium, and copper. Recycling a ton of cell phones (~ 600) results in 12 ounces of gold ($18,484), 125 ounces of silver ($515), 6 ounces of palladium ($332), and 286 pounds of copper ($100).

Why should you recycle e-waste?

1. Protect public health and the environment. Avoid disposing e-waste into landfills, which expose both the atmosphere and ground water to toxins.

2. Conserve natural resources. There are many products that can be made from e-waste such as jewelry, garden furniture catalytic converters, and many more.

3. Create jobs. As demand for electronics recycling grows, new businesses will form and existing companies will grow.

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And the Winners Are...

**FSS Quarterly Team Award Winners**

The Electric Infrastructure Upgrade Team has been awarded the FSS Quarterly Team Award.

Over a 13 day period the team managed to safely and proficiently disconnect, move, and re-test all fourteen 15,000-volt electrical feeders and connect them to new electrical switch gear. This project required an 18 month period of planning in order to perform the task in a fast and competent manner. The entire university including faculty, staff, students and visitors benefited from the electrical infrastructure upgrade.

**Members:**
- Facilities Management: Eddie Burdgen, Jerry Dobson, Bill Gehre, Collin Marting, Richard Mobley, Robert Moraels, Collin Myers, Jason Norton, Joanna Ponce, David Smith, Gail Teixeira, Stan S. Ish, Season Koon, Paul Files

**Did You Know?**

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Welcome To the Team!

We would like to extend a warm welcome to the following new employees:

• Kelly Anne Norton, Accountant I, Accounts Payable
• Faber Leonardo Castano, Facilities Maintenance Worker I, Facilities Management
• Joni Zacharisen, Assistant Director for Contract Compliance,Procurement & Strategic Sourcing
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David Morris, from Planning, Design and Construction has a new addition to his family. His granddaughter Colie Valerio was born January 15, 2013. Congratulations on this new baby, David!

Patty Magdich, Student Business Services, and her husband Steve will be celebrating their 20th wedding anniversary on May 30th. Congrats to both of them!

Lynn Ford, Student Business Services, joins the Grandma club with the expected arrival of her first granddaughter due October 6, 2013.

Ricky Eddie Camacho, Custodial Operations, was promoted to Custodial Technician from Custodian with the Midnight Shift on March 4, 2013. Congratulations!

Edward Suárez, from Planning, Design and Construction, has retired after 35 years of continuous service with Texas State. We wish him well on his new endeavors in his retirement!

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Paula Alvarez, Custodial Operations, receives kudos from Chad Wendel for doing such a fine job keeping the Nueces building so clean. Keep up the good work!

Katie Bonner, Human Resources, was recognized by Linda Sterling for her taking time out of her busy schedule to assist her with the office location changes on the Faculty/Staff Directory. Great job!

Lupita Mireles would like to express her sincere gratitude towards Bobbie Brandenburg, Selma Selvars, and Roxie Weaver, Human Resources. She has enjoyed working with each of you and appreciates your kindness, patience, and professionalism. Bobbie, Selma and Roxie also receive two thumbs up from Carole Brauer-Dykema for helping her navigate through the Human Resources processes. Great teamwork!

Another shout out to Bobbie Brandenburg, this time from Nancy Covill. She appreciates Bobbie helping her through the EASY hiring system. She states, “I could not have gotten through that maze of information without your calm and professional help.” Way to go!

Jon Gaddis, would like to send out his appreciation to Michelle Ayme at the Student Recreation Center for a job well done and “going the extra mile to make my office sparkle!” Fabulous!

Jon Gaddis, would like to send out his appreciation to Todd Gonzales and Mike Garcia of Custodial Operations for being so helpful while he was working on the water fountain. They made sure to keep the work area clean. Great job!

Heather Phillips and Heather Steed, Human Resources, were complimented by Shirley Pilus for their assistance through the Human Resources Benefits. One more kudos goes out to Heath Phillips: Terry Hernandez would like to acknowledge you for your quick response and all your patience. Awesome!

Chad Wendel appreciates Heath Bristow and Val Marrello of Custodial Operations for being so helpful while he was working on the water fountain. They made sure to keep the work area clean. Great job!

Wellness...At Your Pace

Was weight loss or exercise part of your New Year’s resolution? Has it started to dwindle or left your life completely? Get back in it with one of the great benefits of being a regular Texas State employee.

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I recently saw two former presidents of Texas State University System components who have a long history of attending Board of Regents meetings on our campus. Each recently had reason to be in San Marcos and on our campus, and they both gushed about the improvements to the campus appearance over the years. They were still in their positions in 2003 when the Board approved our campus master plan so they were aware of our goals for the appearance of the campus, but they had not seen the plans coming to fruition. From the stadium improvements and the cleaned up look of the Aquarius property on the east side of campus, to the Undergraduate Academic Center in the center and the Student Rec Center and Speck Street Garage to the west, they were highly complimentary. Of course, they also had to comment on the disruption and uncertainty they faced trying to get around the Moon, Woods and Edward Gary area. I told them the same thing I’ve said all along about this project. “It’s going to be great when it’s completed!”

The compliments of these two former university presidents are a tribute to the hard work and dedication each of you brings to your job every day. While Facilities and FSS Planning are the most involved in these changes in the campus appearance, “it takes a village” as they say to make this possible. All of you who are involved in providing customer service to students, faculty or other staff make Texas State attractive to the students who generate the resources to make these projects possible.

Admissions once again has a record number of applications from high school seniors and potential transfer students for the fall. Texas State continues to be in the top five public or private universities in the state in terms of the number of applications, transcript and SAT/ACT scores received. Somebody had to make Texas State “rising star of Texas” and you deserve as much credit as anyone. And you’ve done this over the last decade with a significant shortage of resources for new staff positions and M&O budgets.

Help in that regard may be on the way. Today, as the General Appropriations Act makes its way through the Senate and House of the Texas Legislature, we have the first real increase in funding for current operations in ten years in both bills. The Senate version would provide approximately $9 Million more per year in funding for operations and the House version has approximately $6 Million more per year. You will recall that State General Revenue funding for operations per student and adjusted for inflation has been in decline for a decade. It will take several more years of this level of new funding to get back to pre-2003 levels, but this is an encouraging start. As of the date of this writing there are still two more months to go in the Session and a lot can happen. I’ll keep my fingers crossed, though, that we might be back on the upswing in terms of funding. Who knows what we could accomplish with more resources!

FSS Leadership
Vice President William Nance
Director, EH&S/RM Russell Clark
Associate Vice President, Facilities Juan Guerra
Director of Auxiliary Services John McBride
Associate VP, Planning Nancy Nusbaum
Associate VP, Financial Services Garry Borgonah
Director of Auxiliary Services John Root
Assistant VP, Budgeting, Financial Planning & Analysis Gordon Tryberg
Treasurer Valarie Van Vlack

FSS Division Mission: The Finance and Support Services Division is dedicated to providing outstanding customer service and a challenging and satisfying work environment while maintaining the fiscal integrity of the university.

Letter From the Vice President

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