Just a little over 9 months ago, Kerry Kennedy and I sat next to each other at a NACUBO general session. Before the session speaker started, he shared his big news about his retirement and that UTSA would be looking for a new Vice President. Before we left that session, I told him “You know I might just be interested in that job!” It took me several months to do some soul searching and to decide on my next steps. Did I have something to offer UTSA? Could I give up my comfort zone, my good job, and the relationships I had built up for the better part of the last 21 years? At first I decided there was still so much I wanted to accomplish at TAMUCC, and maybe I wasn’t up for the change this new job would bring to my life. You may have heard the saying that ‘Change is Hard and Scary!’ I delayed taking any action until I received an email from the search firm that invited me to reach out and discuss the possibilities.

So, a little chat to see if there was more to learn about this opportunity seemed like the right thing to do. Once I told my husband about the search firm discussion, he and my mother spent the next several months in the background encouraging me that this was an opportunity meant for me to pursue. There is a saying that has stuck with me throughout my path to becoming your new Vice President. Sometimes we get to pick our opportunities and other times an opportunity will pick YOU! I feel as though this position and calling UTSA home is clearly one of those opportunities that reached out and picked me. I am returning to San Antonio full of hope for good partnerships and relationships with all of you, excited to be part of your great organization, and to have the opportunity to work with each of you to make UTSA a great place for students, faculty and staff.

Kathy

Rowdy Statue Renovations

Recently, the Roadrunner statue, Rowdy, underwent a make-over to remove rust that had accumulated on the statue since it was moved outside in the upper plaza area near the Multidisciplinary Studies Building. Rowdy is a six-foot tall by 11-foot long iron statue that weighs one thousand pounds. It was created by artist R.G. Box, and was dedicated to the university in August 2014.

After moving the statue from the University Center to the location outside of the Multidisciplinary Studies Building, Rowdy had begun to show that he was not perfectly suited for the outdoor conditions. Rust had quickly started to collect on the feathers of the bird and the UTSA community jumped into action. Rowdy received a blast of glass beads to remove the rust and then a colored paint with clear-coat protection was applied. The clear-coated paint will help protect Rowdy for years to come but like anything else, Rowdy may need more work in the future to help keep him looking as young and refreshed as possible for the incoming freshman year after year. Go Runners!!
Spotlight on... Brian Moroney

Brian Moroney – Director of Environmental Health, Safety and Risk Management (EHSRM).

Brian has been with UT System for over 15 years and serves as the Director of EHSRM (SAFETY) since joining UTSA in August of 2004. He has over 20 years of experience as a safety professional, including five years as the Safety & Compliance Officer with LabCorp regional clinical lab, and nearly five years as the Chemical & Biological Safety Manager at the UT Health Science Center San Antonio.

Brian believes strongly in value added service. From humble beginnings at UTSA with six full-time and two part-time employees, the department has added a certified HAZMAT Team, Return to Work, Occupational Health and Wellness, and Recycling and Solid Waste programs to complement existing Occupational Safety, Asbestos/Mold and Construction Safety, Hazardous Waste Management, Risk Management, Fire Safety, and Lab Safety programs. The department now has four divisions and employs over 26 employees and six student workers to help deliver these program services to all faculty, staff and students.

Brian and his beautiful wife, Patty, will be celebrating their 20th anniversary this July! They have five sons and eleven grandchildren ranging in age from 2 – 17 years old. They keep both grandparents very busy and it seems like there’s a birthday nearly every weekend. Brian enjoys hiking and walking with his wife (or you can see him most workdays walking across the main campus during the lunch hour) as well as traveling, gardening, and sailing when he can work that in to his busy schedule. And as always he reminds you to be smart, be safe, and make a difference!

Thank you, Brian, for your service to Business Affairs and the university community.

Energy Savings Initiative

On March 31, 2015 a collaborative team from Operations and E&G Zone completed the installation of photocells for all those parking lot lights that are currently controlled through the campus Siemens Apogee Building Automation System (BAS). The work consisted of multiple photocells tied into the BAS which will be the way that the parking lot lights are turned on and off on a daily basis based on lighting conditions.

This project will generate energy savings because it more accurately determines on-off times for the lights than was done using time clocks alone. The payback is estimated to be 11 months or less. In addition, if the campus is dark during the normal daylight hours (due to storm or overcast) the parking lot lights will be illuminated automatically due to the action of the photocells. This project was completed at a much lower cost than originally budgeted through the great teamwork of the Maintenance and Operations staff comprised of Arnold Villafranco, James Pendleton and Noel Alvarez.

Congratulations to this team and their respective supervisors (Matt May, E&G Zone and Byron Reeder, Operations) on completing this project on time and under budget while at the same time providing new capability for UTSA to save energy and increase safety through the turning on and off of the parking lot lights by means of this photocell project. Special appreciation as well to Dagoberto Rodriguez, Energy Manager, for estimating the payback on this project which was instrumental in getting the approval to proceed.

UTShare Spotlight

The April UTShare Spotlight for UTSA will continue its focus on “Tips” and “How To” information that can make using PeopleSoft easier to use. The publication will deliver this type of information so the campus community will be kept up to date. Click here to follow the Spotlight
Dear Ms. Baran-Centeno,

I am writing to commend one of the HR representatives in your department—Ms. Elizabeth Corrales. She has recently worked with me to effect my retirement, and I must say her patience and kindness are exemplary. As confusing as the process was to me, she efficiently guided me through the "maze." She displays tact, concern, and even humor in her dealings with her clients. I sincerely hope that you recognize her excellence, and in times of promotion or salary increases, you will recall this note of total appreciation for her consummate professionalism.

Yours most respectfully,

Paula Tran, Lecturer III
The Writing Program

Clay and Hillary,

Our Extreme Pita manager, Luz, was presented an award by the Honors Alliance Students at UTSA. It was presented in appreciation for excellence in promoting academic integrity, intelligent living, and meaningful learning. She was nominated by the students. The award was presented to her on March 18, 2015.

Thanks,
Louis Keefe
Aramark

Carissa (Lawrence),

Attached is the Department Budget Table (DBT) you assisted/walked me through in completing this morning. Please let me know if this is correct and good to go.

I also want to thank you for your patience and can do attitude! I know you all are inundated with issues/questions/projects, etc., so thank you for your time.

Ernesto Cano
Director of Operations

Dear Ms. Baran-Centeno,

I am writing to commend one of the HR representatives in your department—Ms. Elizabeth Corrales. She has recently worked with me to effect my retirement, and I must say her patience and kindness are exemplary. As confusing as the process was to me, she efficiently guided me through the "maze." She displays tact, concern, and even humor in her dealings with her clients. I sincerely hope that you recognize her excellence, and in times of promotion or salary increases, you will recall this note of total appreciation for her consummate professionalism.

Yours most respectfully,

Paula Tran, Lecturer III
The Writing Program

Thanks, Barbara (Centeno), I think our work with Team Barbara (Ron Golenski, Ron Fosmire, Henry Barrera, Bruce Tingle, Claudia White) has been very productive. The chairs you mentioned are very enthusiastic about the streamlining of faculty posting procedures project and your folks have been very accommodating.

Jessie Zapata, Senior Vice Provost
Barbara, Thanks for the update and for engaging with the faculty—this is a good example of a productive and meaningful partnership to achieve a win-win solution.

Thanks,
John (Frederick), Provost

Thank you Brenda (Tamayo) and Kimberly (Norton) so much for all your help with this complicated work order. You all have been life savers!

Have a great day!
Brett Fletcher/Nancy Woodward

Thank you all for striving for excellence every day!
Deborah Riley Retiring

Deborah (Debbie) Riley, Associate Bursar, has just celebrated her 30 year anniversary at UTSA and will retire on April 30th. She has been a great asset to UTSA and Fiscal Services at the Downtown Campus (DTC). Debbie’s supervisor, Gary Lott, appreciates her work ethic and knows that any DTC issues would be appropriately handled. Debbie focuses on customer service and prides herself on providing what is in the best interest of UTSA and our students at all times.

In 1984, Debbie began working at UTSA in the accounts payable section of the Accounting Office and later transferred to the travel reimbursement section. She then moved to the newly opened DTC Fiscal Services Office in 1997, and has served the DTC and Business Affairs in many capacities.

Debbie’s enthusiasm and positive attitude will be sorely missed. She has touched a lot of lives while at UTSA, both employees and students, and has always enjoyed assisting others and sharing her expertise.

Congratulations, Debbie, and all the best in your well-deserved retirement!

Dale Carnegie Training

Sixty staff members of the Office of Facilities were provided an opportunity to participate in the Dale Carnegie Training course. The Dale Carnegie Training was founded in 1912 and is represented in over 90 countries with approximately eight million people completing the training worldwide. This course offers skills for success which will enhance their customer service relationships with both internal and external customers. The program objectives are to 1) Build Greater Self-Confidence; 2) Strengthen People Skills; 3) Enhance Communication Skills; 4) Develop Leadership Skills; and 5) Reduce Stress and Improve Our Attitude.

Our first group of 30 Facilities staff members consisting of supervisors and direct contact personnel attended a vigorous eight week Dale Carnegie Training course. They revealed that many of the Dale Carnegie principles they learned would improve their skills and performance in their daily job tasks, and indicated that the course inspired the need for a new level of camaraderie. The participants of the second class will have an opportunity to gain significant knowledge as well as participate in memorable exercises.

The Dale Carnegie Training is not only beneficial to UTSA by improving the performance of its employees, adding resources that will be useful in both the employees’ professional careers and personal life, but will strengthen and enhance the overall customer service of the department, open lines of communication amongst team members and with other departments in support of the organizational mission.

Della Reyes

Della Reyes has been appointed to the position of Quality Assurance Manager effective April 1, 2015. She will provide management support for the Quality Assurance team.

Prior to this position at UTSA, she served as the Grounds Maintenance Supervisor for almost five years, and was instrumental in overseeing the exceptional day-to-day maintenance of the campus grounds and grounds preparations for all special events held on campus.

Della’s love of challenges, relentless energy and determination to meet her goals makes her a valuable addition to the Facilities Business and Customer Services team.

BAS Scavenger Hunt

Business Auxiliary Services hosted its first ever scavenger hunt on Friday, April 17th. The event educated students on all the service areas BAS manages. Participants traveled to all six of the department’s service areas (Transportation, Parking, UTSA Card, Dining, Bookstore & Vending) to complete small challenges. The challenges included answering UTSA trivia and locating important service information all the while incorporating social media.
When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!

Spring is upon us, and with the changing of the seasons comes the threat of severe weather and flooding. Take time on a sunny day to be prepared for those occasional stormy days. So, what does severe weather mean, you may wonder? Severe weather includes thunderstorms, downbursts/damaging winds, lightning, tornadoes, hail storms, waterspouts, tropical cyclones (hurricanes), and dust storms.

With the increased risk of severe weather in our area during the spring time, it’s important to recognize what our number one threat is – flooding. A flood or flash flood WATCH means a flood is possible in your area. A flood or flash flood WARNING means flooding is already occurring or will occur soon in your area. A severe thunderstorm WATCH means conditions are favorable for thunderstorms – WARNING indicates severe thunderstorms are occurring and/or capable of producing large hail or high winds causing significant damage. Late season cold fronts, mixing with lots of gulf moisture, can spark intense thunderstorms across San Antonio, so always be prepared to act quickly.

The best defense for severe weather is awareness and preparedness. When a thunderstorm is approaching, keep an eye on the sky. Look for darkening skies, lightning, or increasing wind. When thunder roars, go indoors! If you can hear thunder, you are close enough to the storm to be struck by lightning. Go to safe shelter immediately and wait out the storm.

Severe thunderstorms can produce flash flooding in the San Antonio metro. Did you know moving water only six inches deep can sweep you off your feet? Twelve inches can sweep a car off the road. It’s best to turn around, don’t drown. Standing flood water may be electrically charged from underground or downed power lines. Crossing or disregarding a barricade in San Antonio is a Class B misdemeanor that includes a fine of up to $2,000 and up to 180 days in jail. Moving a barricade posted at a low water crossing also is a Class B misdemeanor that may result in a fine of up to $1,000 and up to two years in jail. You can be arrested for either offense. Additionally, the San Antonio Fire Department (SAFD) charges a fee of $400 for each person rescued from a designated low water crossing.

Remember that the best decision you can make during severe weather and/or a flood is to shelter-in-place and ride out the storm. For more information on flooding in our area, please visit the www.floodsmart.gov or the National Weather Service at www.weather.gov/austin. During a storm, listen to local radio or TV stations for flood information, and monitor the UTSA Campus Alerts webpage at www.alerts.utsa.edu.

Sources: American Red Cross, City of San Antonio, National Flood Insurance Program

By Lorenzo D. Sanchez, Director of Emergency Management

Living Well

Financial Affairs officially launched their department wide wellness initiative through partnering with the Living Well University of Texas System Activity Challenge. This program runs from April 6th through May 17th. Our goal is to achieve 10,000 steps each day for a minimum of five (5) days each week.

During the Financial Affairs Activity Challenge Kickoff, Alison Smith, Assistant Director of Fitness/Wellness, discussed the benefits of exercising and demonstrated exercises that can be done right at your desk. Allison also showed everyone a few desk stretches to help energize your muscles and keep you active and healthy. Kristee Phelps, Occupational Health and Wellness Manager, discussed the UT System Physical Activity Challenge and fielded all questions regarding plan details and ways to achieve individual goals. Kristee discussed that staff have free access to the recreational center on Fridays.

This initiative plan is to encourage all Financial Affairs members to get out there and move! During our pep-rally, we unveiled our plans and goals for the department and watched an excellent and hilarious video of staff demonstrating various exercises.
Get Smart

A Get Smart, Healthy Start nutrition event was conducted at the Roadrunner Café in partnership with UTSA Dining, Campus Recreation, and Campus Technology to introduce café visitors to campus tools and resources for a healthier lifestyle.

Working with Campus Recreation, a Jeopardy game was created to highlight healthy dining choices throughout campus and emphasize the benefits of leading an active lifestyle. The Campus Technology Store displayed health and wellness items available for purchase on campus and donated a Fitbit, which was given away to a student participant.

Corporate Cup 2015

SATURDAY, MAY 30TH
UNIVERSITY OF INCARNATE WORD
7:30AM - 12:30PM

All UTSA faculty and staff are invited to join this field day for big kids known as the Corporate Cup! Create a team with your department or sign up on your own for the following events:

- 5K RUN
- 3v3 BASKETBALL
- GOLF CUPPING
- DODGEBALL
- TAG OF WAR
- FOOTBALL THROW
- CORN TOSS
- SOCCER KICKS
- FRISBEE THROW
- SACK RACE
- 4X200M SWIM RELAY
- 2K WALK
- 4X100M RELAY

All registration fees have been paid by UTSA. There is no cost to join.

To register or receive more information, please contact:
wellness@utsa.edu

Team Effort

Business Auxiliary Services (BAS) announced the winner of the first-ever U Design BAS Parking Permit Contest at the Communication Week (COMMS) award ceremony on April 9th. The winning design was submitted by Monica Martinez, class of 2018, whose design will serve as the background for all 2015-2016 UTSA Parking Permits, of which she will receive a free Commuter permit.

BAS was thrilled to receive twelve submissions for consideration in this first ever design contest and looks forward to repeating the contest next year. A special thank you is extended to the University Art and Communication departments who assisted in the promotion of the contest.

Worth Remembering…

"Growth is revealed through change. Be unafraid of the new."

~Anonymous

Business Affairs Promise

We are committed to helping you achieve your goals through excellence in service -- every person, every day, every job.