I hope everyone is enjoying what spring in San Antonio has to offer us. The weather is changing, and many things around my home are budding or already in full bloom. I see the same gorgeous colors when I look around our beautiful campus. March winds took several of my garden flags, now lost forever. Plus those winds blew all that pollen around and fully engaged my allergies. For those of you who suffer through this season, I’m right there with you, taking my daily allergy regimen.

Those stunning trees regaining their leaves reminds me that Earth Day is around the corner. See the articles on UTSA’s Earth Month plans on page 9. Visit our website to see what simple actions you can take every day to improve the environment. Read also about how we’re endeavoring to balance the growing needs for parking with retaining the green spaces on our campus.

If you need another reason to enjoy this month’s weather, April also begins the Spring into Motion step challenge, which started April 3. This is also the month we celebrate Fiesta and University Excellence Awards. This year I’m pleased to recognize our very own Fiscal Services team whose Rowdy Pay project collaboration earned them the Team Spirit Award. Kudos to them and all the people who supported this successful, student-focused program. This exemplary effort demonstrates the tremendous results of living Business Affairs’ Guiding Principles. I was happy to see several of you at the awards ceremony, supporting UTSA’s strides toward achieving tier-one status.

On April 4, I visited both the 1st Generation celebration hosted by the Provost’s division and the UTSA PD’s Sexual Assault Awareness event. On this absolutely beautiful day I was gratified to be a part of a university that welcomes so many first-generation students—46% of our undergraduates. As a first-genner myself, I’m in good company in Business Affairs where many of our staff are among the first in their families to have attended and graduated from college. See a few of our photos on page 11 and submit your own.

I was as moved that day by UTSA’s commitment to eliminating sexual violence on campus and in our communities. Students, staff, and faculty showed that they’re answering the Call to Action to prevent sexual assaults and shine the light on this unacceptable issue that continues to afflict our schools and our country.

Filled with both serious and celebratory events, April marks my second anniversary with UTSA. I truly appreciate the wonderful welcome I had my first year. Time has just flown by working alongside our wonderful Business Affairs team. We have accomplished a great deal, and I look forward to celebrating this past year’s accomplishments with all of you at our May 18 Annual Forum. Look for more information on this exciting event in the month ahead.
Spotlight on...Christopher Valles

Associate Bursar Chris Valles spent several of his formative summer years discovering the campus of UT El Paso (UTEP) and hanging out in the Sun Bowl Stadium, which sat in the shadow of the Franklin Mountains. He watched as the Haskins Center was built, roamed campus buildings and eventually made his way back to the campus radio station (KTEP), where he waited for his father’s work day as the general manager to end. Little did Chris know that those summers would influence his choices later in life.

Born and raised in El Paso, Chris attended UTSA for a short period, before returning home to finish his undergraduate degree in mass communications (advertising emphasis) at UTEP. He returned to San Antonio in 2003, and spent a few years in the banking industry. Looking to return to the university environment, Chris joined UTSA in 2007, and is now approaching his 10-year anniversary in Financial Affairs with the Fiscal Services (Main Campus) team. He was recently part of the team honored with a University Excellence Award for their role in launching Rowdy Pay—a project Chris sees as one of his biggest accomplishments at UTSA.

While Chris loves our Tex Mex food, he still longs for El Paso Mexican food, which has a flavor and spice indigenous to the local culture. He also misses the mountains and desert—especially the smell of the desert after a rainfall. Chris enjoys taking his 14-year-old daughter to Spurs and Rampage games (she is a big hockey fan!). He loves to golf and has recently embarked on a fitness program, walking several miles a day after work. He also counts music as a hobby, and enjoys spending time hunting for used vinyl albums around town and in Austin—a passion that stemmed from his childhood days sitting in the DJ booth playing records all day while his dad worked.

Fishing for Resolution

As Assistant Director of Disbursements and Travel Services Elisabeth Cuadros pursues her doctorate degree, she often comes across books and theories that could easily be applied in the workplace. While reading “Hostage at the Table” by George Kohlrieser, Elisabeth was intrigued by his theory of “fish on the table” when it comes to dealing with conflict. According to Kohlrieser, “Too often, we believe that conflict is something that must be avoided at all costs; the tendency to suppress conflict can spark a cascade of negative emotions that eventually derail managers, leaders and organizations.”

To ensure her team was addressing concerns and issues as they arose, Elisabeth decided to use the “fish on a table” concept to break the ice. The concept stems from the idea that if you leave fish under the table long enough, it will start to smell and decay. By putting issues on the table, you digest them and add or take away the ingredients that make for the best resolution.

Elisabeth did a trial run with the Travel Group. Each member received his or her own fish...not the real thing, but a stuffed fish that accomplishes the same goal. When a team member has an issue or concern with a project, s/he places the fish on the desk of the team member who can best help with a resolution. The one requirement is that the initiator must also come prepared with a solution to the problem.

Using the “fish on the table” concept leaves the door open to also deal with personal issues. With many changes taking place in the department, Elisabeth believes this is a great way to break the ice during stressful moments. She says that staff members like the concept because it reassures them that they are truly a team—and that it is OK to speak up (rather than not addressing it at all). In fact, the concept was recently of use when the team worked to resolve issues concerning a vendor. The issue was addressed immediately and resolved more quickly than if her team had sat on their concerns. Elisabeth plans to extend this concept to include all Disbursements and Travel Service staff members.
Financial Affairs

The Rowdy Exchange is the new one-stop platform for purchasing goods and services at UTSA. The Rowdy Exchange project team is now conducting system testing and developing training. Registration for purchaser and approver training will begin in late April, and classes start in May.

The team urges everyone involved in purchasing to take the mandatory training so we’re all ready for the July launch. Stay informed. Rowdy Exchange will help you buy earth-friendlier products.

Historically Underutilized Businesses

Stop by the HUB Vendor Fair and meet with representatives from minority-, women-, and disabled veteran-owned companies that serve UTSA.

Downtown: May 2, 9-3, Southwest Conference Rm, DB 1.124 - Auditorium
Main Campus: May 3, 9-3, HUC Ballroom

Bring your business cards and learn about some great HUB companies that can help you serve your customers.

PDS Celebrates National Procurement Month

March was National Procurement Month, and the Purchasing Department reminded all users that it was a great time to renew their understanding of the procurement process AND a great time to meet the professionals who help to procure goods and services for the university. Procurement professionals help the university achieve Blueprint UTSA goals and strategies. Get acquainted with your Purchasing team.

Happy National Procurement Month! Thank you for all you do for UTSA and especially for COE Dean’s Office. We greatly appreciate all of your hard work in keeping us on track throughout the year.

Leticia de Lafuente
Administrative Associate I, College of Engineering

Diane Gomez
Financial Affairs Communications Manager

Diane Gomez joined the Financial Affairs team on March 20, and brings more than 13 years of higher education communications experience with her. She is an award-winning communications professional who has worked with San Antonio College (SAC), the University of Texas at Austin, and most recently, Rutgers University, where served as director of marketing and communications for the School of Communication and Information. She has also held teaching positions as an adjunct instructor for SAC, Austin Community College and Rutgers University.

She recently returned to San Antonio from the east coast, where she also worked with New Jersey Transit (NJT) and the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA). As a communication services coordinator in NJT’s corporate communications department, Diane was project manager for internal publications. She joined PRSA as a public relations manager, where she oversaw member communications efforts; led external media relations for all events and worked to expand PRSA’s engagement of new media outlets; and developed and managed their social media policy and presence.

A San Antonio native, Diane is the first in her immediate family to receive a bachelor’s degree. A graduate of the University of Texas at Austin, she received a Bachelor of Journalism in public relations and a Bachelor of Arts in government.

Growing up, Diane saw her mother and father work full time at Kelly AFB, come home for a quick dinner, then head out to classes at St. Mary’s University. Education was always a topic of conversation at dinner time. While her parents eventually stopped taking classes due to life events, their efforts paid off in their respective jobs. Her mother was her biggest influence as she drilled into Diane the importance of a woman getting a college education and also becoming financially independent. She nurtured Diane’s natural affinity for school, indulging her requests to participate in college programs while still in high school.

We welcome first-generation graduate and eighth-generation Texan Diane Gomez to the Business Affairs family.

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Leticia de Lafuente
Administrative Associate I, College of Engineering
Kudos

KUDOS to Facilities

Work performed at the Recreation Wellness Center, by Johnnie Harris, Maintenance Worker II:

I submit a lot of work requests due to the nature of my job and just want to say thank you for what your team does. I know I am not the only one submitting work requests (and I submit a lot), so there's a ton of requests being submitted daily. Keeping track and responding to each one takes a lot of effort and time. Even if you miss one or two.....GOOD WORK! I even get called sometimes when the request I submitted wasn't clear or the tech can't find the location. So Thank You!

Work at the John Peace Library Administration, by Michael Fernandez and Arthur Perez:

What can I say--the E&G Zone team is very responsive to all of our requests. They always take the time to ensure they know exactly what we want done and offer recommendations based on their expertise. We have a great relationship with every member of the team. This work was completed well in advance of our deadline. Art and Mike provided updates throughout. Thank you for a job well done!

Move of 27 Microfiche cabinets (fully loaded) at the John Peace Library by Joseph Vara, Alan Valdez, James Villanueva, Michael E. Fernandez, Eddy Baggerman:

Job well done to the entire moving crew! This shift of microfiche cabinets was a real challenge as the cabinets were fully loaded with very dense microfiche...so very heavy and difficult to move. I know the crew was exhausted when the job was finished! As I have come to expect, they checked in with me before they left to ensure the move was completed satisfactorily. They all deserve recognition as moves of condensed library materials such as microfiche are very physically taxing. Thank you.

Work for two atmospheric water generators at the Power & Dynamics Systems Laboratory performed by James Martinez and Albert Parvin:

I would like to recognize the great job James Martinez and Albert Parvin did as part of this request. They have a great service attitude and went above and beyond the call of duty to make sure the final outcome was what we were looking for and needed. They are a great example of the type of people we need at UTSA!

To Ray Rios, Luis Borroco and Dave Riker

I want to thank Facilities for their excellent work in addressing this safety concern. You performed this work very professionally, and I do appreciate your sincere kindness and full cooperation. Since the signs were first placed there weeks ago, no one has parked in that area. The striping makes the “No Parking” area much clearer. Your work has made West Campus a much safer workplace.

John J Clifford, Jr. Ph.D.
Director of Purchasing and Distribution Services

Kudos to Alfredo Cavazos, Warehouse Worker II, FA

I want to acknowledge the good service I received from Alfredo in providing me with information about the transfer of a surplus desk and bookcase identified from the advising department to my office, as well as removing a desk from my office. Alfredo was very conscientious in following up with me this past week and was able to do the transfer in a timely fashion as not to disrupt the other office. I would like to commend him for a job well done. He even moved a few items over for me that were heavy despite the fact they had to hurry back to do another task.

Please make sure he is commended for doing a good job, and for helping me to have an excellent experience with the Surplus Department.

Linda Leech, MS
Student Support Services, Director

Kudos to Araceli Pacheco, PeopleSoft

Carlos, I’m betting you get an email like this daily about Araceli, but I’ve been remiss in not sending it previously...like three years remiss. She is truly awesome in her willingness to help those in need and follows through to make sure you were successful. This has been the experience of my staff and myself.

I sincerely appreciate her assistance.

Clay Haverland, CASP
AVP Campus Services

Ken Johnson

Ken Johnson, a driver on Route 13 of The ‘Runner, received this shout out on Twitter:

yikes @vvvjaque

I’ve said it before and I’ll say it again, ken is my favorite shuttle driver at UTSA. Always has the best music. Currently playing: Sade
#UDesign2017 Parking Permit Design Contest Winner

This year’s UDesign Parking Permit Design Contest was a resounding success! With more than 50 fantastic submissions, Campus Services faced a difficult decision in selecting a winner. Ultimately, we narrowed it down to our top three choices and announced the winner at the COMMweek awards ceremony March 29. Here are our winners.

**First Place:** Congratulations to Jasmine Goodsaid! Her creative and bold design won her a student garage permit of her choice for the 2017-18 academic year and will be displayed on all parking permits across campus.

**Second Place:** Mariah Villarreal, who takes home $100 FastPass.

**Third Place:** Joey Barrera, who snagged a Campus Services swag bag.

Thank you to everyone who helped communicate this opportunity to our students!

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**New International Rowdy Curbside Menus**

UTSA Dining is excited to announce three new international menus at Rowdy Curbside: Middle Eastern, Asian, and Indian.

Swing by the food truck to try them out – and don’t forget to let UTSA Dining know what you think! Follow @UTSADining on Twitter for updates on Rowdy Curbside’s daily location and menu of the week.

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**Fiesta Parking**

As in years past, UTSA is partnering with an outside vendor to manage Downtown Campus parking in designated lots during Fiesta, April 20-30. If you’re a UTSA permit holder, continue to park where your permit allows at no additional charge. Guests without permits can park for a fee in Cattlemans Square, D1, D2, and D3 during specific hours. Visitors for on-campus events are encouraged to park in Monterey Lot pay stall spaces with PIN codes or Employee A spaces with daily scratch-off permits, as the upper level of the garage will close at 4:30pm throughout Fiesta. Don’t forget: arrive at the Downtown Campus early when parking, as traffic is significantly heavier during this time period. Be safe, and Viva Fiesta!

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**Eat Well, Help the Planet**

Kick off Earth Week with UTSA Dining! On April 17 from 1 – 4p.m., stop by the UTSA Dining table on the UC Paseo to learn how they contribute to sustainable initiatives and how you can incorporate a plant-forward menu in your diet. Participate in various games and activities for a chance to win some fun swag. For more information on UTSA Dining, including events and promotions, visit [http://utscampusdish.com/](http://utscampusdish.com/).

Check out what UTSA Dining is doing to help improve our environment.

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**2017-18 Permit Sales**

2017-18 parking permits are available now! Buy now and pay later. Employees, select “payroll deduction” at checkout. Billing begins with the August 2017 pay period. Students can select “add to tuition/fees” to be billed in fall 2017. Reserving your parking permit is easy: simply login to your MyParking account, click “Get Permits,” and follow the on-screen prompts to choose your 2017-18 parking permit. Questions? Contact Campus Services at (210) 458-7275 or parking@utsa.edu.

Learn more about the new parking lot [construction here](http://utscampusdish.com/).
Hundreds Answer Call to Action

On Tuesday April 4, the UTSA Police Department and UTSA Interfraternity Council hosted the third annual UTSA It’s on Us—Call to Action Day at the UC Paseo, recognizing Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

As a DJ played upbeat tunes, more than 400 campus community members visited the 27 information tables—set up by UTSA departments, student and community organizations—to learn more about sexual violence and to engage in activities. Many stopped at the photo booth to have their pictures taken. At each table they secured the host’s initials on their “passports.” After their visit, they took their completed passports to the survey table, where they offered their feedback and earned a #notonmycampus tee shirt.

Event organizer Cpl. Maranda Tupper of UTSA PD explained, “It’s on all of us to use our voices to end sexual violence. Prevention requires addressing the root causes and social norms that allow sexual violence to exist. We want survivors to know they’re not alone and UTSA has a support system and resources for them.”

Among the volunteers on site, Chief Gerald Lewis (below) and Cpl. Tupper provided information on the university’s education, training, resources and initiatives to raise awareness about and to prevent sexual violence.

Maranda Tupper (top row left) was featured in an Express-News article on UT’s survey of sexual misconduct.

Angling for a Safer, Healthier Workplace: First-Generation EHSRM Employee Earns Certification and Master’s Degree

EHSRM’s Killian Fischer earned his Associate Safety Professional (ASP) Certification, awarded by the Board of Certified Safety Professionals, in February. Obtaining this certification demonstrates a broad scope of knowledge of safety, health, and environmental practice, and Killian’s accomplishment will serve UTSA well as we continue our march toward becoming a Tier I university.

Because his father worked for McDonnell Douglas (now Boeing), the Clearwater, Fla native moved at age 7 to Al-Khobar, Saudi Arabia, where he attended an American-British school. He later moved to Germany then lived in several United States as well. Killian joined the United States Navy in 2004, following high school. He worked at two nuclear power plants in various radiation protection roles as well as on board a nuclear-powered submarine.

Killian joined UTSA’s EHSRM Department in August 2016 as a Safety Specialist III. In this role, Killian ensures that UTSA’s hazardous waste program is operating in compliance with state and federal regulations. He also serves as co-coordinator of UTSA’s HAZMAT Response Team. He has been accepted to test for the Certified Safety Professional certification.

Killian and his “amazing” wife Terry, who works at USAA, have two beautiful daughters, Kinley and Klaire, aged four and one. They met while Killian was stationed in Virginia Beach, VA. They have enjoyed taking the kids to San Antonio area parks as well as frequenting Sea World and Aquatica. They also feel fortunate to be able to spend time with Killian’s grandparents, who live close by. During his free time, Killian enjoys playing the drums and guitar.

April’s Runner Beat focuses its lens on sexual assault and alcohol awareness, and on child abuse prevention.

For more information on those issues and more, contact UTSA PD’s Community Affairs Section at communityaffairs@utsa.edu.
Facilities

Sombrilla Plaza Gets Soft Washed

Facilities worked overtime during the Spring Break to clean up Sombrilla Plaza. Using newly acquired equipment that uses a soft-wash, low-pressure system, members of the Grounds and Quality Assurance teams cleaned the entire ground surface of the plaza. The environmentally friendly soft-wash system removes embedded growth, pollutants, algae, mold, mildew, and other biological growths. The results are impressive and can be easily seen in the photo below. Facilities will soft wash other surfaces and buildings throughout the year to improve the appearance of the campus.

Facilities Helps UTSA’s Art Curator Place Donated Lions

UTSA recently received a generous donation of two bronze lions for permanent display on campus. Facilities collaborated with the university’s Art Specialist and Curator to place them at their new home. The movers unloaded the two large figures from a horse trailer and carefully transported them by forklift to the UC patio. The lions are located in each corner of the patio near the Starbucks and Campus Technology Store. The works of art were donated by Steven and Tami Griffin and are estimated to be more than 30 years old.

Facilities Construction Team Renovates Space for the Army Research Laboratory

In late January 2017, the UTSA Office of Research Support approached the Office of Facilities with a request to renovate existing space in the North Paseo Building for the newly assigned U.S. Army Research Laboratory (ARL). However, there was a challenge; they had to complete the project by March 1, 2017.

With less than a month to complete the renovation, the Facilities Construction Team (FCT), under the leadership of Roy Garza, Senior Project Manager, accepted the challenge and immediately got to work. Undeterred by the short month of February, the FCT worked diligently to remove existing walls and doors, seal openings, and install new walls, door frames, doors, hardware, furniture, electrical, and lighting.

When asked how they were able to accomplish so much in such a short time, Roy responded with “We used all the tools at our disposal. We purchased furniture from our vendors’ in-stock catalog, and ordered carpet from a quick-ship vendor for fast delivery.” In the end, the three offices and 2,240 square feet of lab space were completed by the deadline.

Thanks to their outstanding teamwork and determination to finish the renovation on time, Roy and the team (Matt May, Mark Ottinger, Michael Cole, Mike Fernandez, Arnold Villafranco, Freddie Robinson and James Pendleton) ensured the ARL was able to move in on March 1, 2017. A ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on March 6 to welcome the ARL to UTSA and acknowledge the exceptional collaboration between departments.
Lot Construction Balances Demand for Parking with Tree Preservation

In Business Affairs’ quest to ensure an excellent campus environment for members of our community, we are also committed to sustainable development as the needs of the university expand. Campus Services and Facilities are collaborating to construct two new parking lots on Main Campus that will create approximately 400 additional spaces for UTSA students, faculty, and staff. Both the Devine Ave. Lot and Resident Lot 4 are expected to be open for the first day of fall 2017 classes. The projects will cost about $3 million and are funded through parking strategic reserves. Fencing and signage will help route pedestrian traffic safely around the projects.

Top of mind throughout this and all project development processes is the environmental impact. Using its customary attention to detail, the Facilities design team carefully analyzed approaches that would allow for the minimum number of trees being removed while allowing the maximum number of campus community members to park.

Learn more by reading:
The full article
New Main Campus parking map for 2017-2018
UTSA Today article
UTSA Parking updates Twitter and Facebook.

Kudos to Gary Lott, Christopher Valles and Sam Suwal

After thinking about the TouchNet project (phase 1), I realize that it was a great team that was put together. Working with all of you was a joy and made things easier to get to the final result.

Everyone seems to take ownership of their role and was willing to learn new things. I feel that these qualities were key factors that made this implementation go well. And the icing on the cake was that I finally got to know Sam and Chris. I had heard their names many times, and had even been in meetings with them, but did not know them well.

I look forward to working on phase 2 of the TouchNet implementation. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of this team!!

Sylvia Dorgan
Sr. Enterprise System Programmer
Office of Information Technology

The Rowdy Pay team of Gary, Chris, Sam, and Sylvia received the Team Spirit Award at the 2017 University Excellence Award ceremony on April 13.

PSSC Spotlight This month’s PeopleSoft Spotlight features frequently asked questions and solutions through the SPOC Ticketing System: “How can I check on the workflow status of financial documents?” Read the full text.

Kudos to PeopleSoft team for Infrastructure Update

UT Shared Information Services (UT SIS) replaced the hardware infrastructure with new state of the art equipment to support the UTShare/PeopleSoft systems. The migration to this new infrastructure affects all PeopleSoft environments and users on our campuses. The new design will ensure redundancy between two sites (Austin and Arlington) for greater performance and reliability and the elimination of down time for users. The transition went smoothly from April 8 to 10.

PSSC reminds staff that the Shared.utsystem.edu domain name has been changed to utshare.utsystem.edu. Users should look for and update:

- Domain names that you have imbedded within webpages
- Domain names within any documentation
- Domain names marked as browser favorites or shortcuts

Please contact PSSC at (210) 458-7762 with questions or concerns. Stay updated at www.utsa.edu/utshare

Thank you,
Ben Moran, Assistant Warehouse Manager
HR: Administrative Support Toolbox Training Series presents:

**Academic & Student Processing (SD245)**
Wednesday, May 24  8:30-12:00 in NPB 1.408
Information and registration: [www.training.utsa.edu](http://www.training.utsa.edu)

Come learn about academic and student processing at UTSA from the experts!

This class is part of a five-course series especially for admin staff & program coordinators. It will help you better understand:
- Admissions, International Programs, Financial Aid, Enrollment Services, Orientation/Family Programs, University College, Advising, Registrar, Student Life, Student Services, Athletics!

For more information call 458-6641 or 4658. See you in class!

**HR outlines options for employees to celebrate the Battle of Flowers, Friday, April 28**

**HR Spring Fiesta 2017 Team Building Activities**

April 7 kicked off Human Resources’ HR Spring Fiesta with breakfast and Spring Madness games at 2:00. Teams of four competed for fabulous prizes in trashketball and target golf.

The winning team builders: **The Chili Peppers**

**Plant a Tree for Earth Day**
Visit the **Earth Day Open House**—West Campus
Friday, April 21
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
10:30 a.m. tree planting ceremony (to replace the live oak removed during construction)

Everyone is invited to the grand opening of the new EHSRM SFE Modular Building, adjacent to the Central Receiving Warehouse on West Campus.
Enjoy refreshments and Earth Day giveaways (including tee shirts) while supplies last.

**Purchasing Reminds Us to Support the Earth:**
- Buy recycled copy paper and use two-sided copying to save paper
- Talk to your Purchasing Specialist about choosing earth-friendly vendors and products
- In **Rowdy Exchange**, you’ll be able to easily shop for earth-friendly products
Earth Month Environmental News

Yes, YOU can improve UTSA’s & the Planet’s Health

It’s Earth Month. Each day in April you can add one activity to improve the environment (and may save money and improve your health). Challenge your friends and family to join you. Catch up on the action items, which started April 3. Some examples:
- Turning off lights when you leave the room and appliances when not in use;
- Purchasing earth-friendly items and printing and copying on both sides of the paper;
- Turning off the water when lathering your skin and brushing your teeth; and
- Tossing your trash and recyclable items in the right bins.

It’s easy to do and really helps the environment. Learn how you can make a difference.

Bashing Litter

UTSA was part of a community-wide trash clean up called Basura Bash on Feb 28. Bexar County volunteers collected:
- 32.8 tons of trash
- 1.14 tons of metal
- 84 tires

UTSA volunteers at Maverick Creek collected:
- 1 ton of trash and 27 tires

Recap from Recyclemania—

UTSA is ranked 43rd out of 202 college and universities for total recycling in the annual Recyclemania competition. UTSA’s diversion (waste kept out of the landfill) rate was 59.7%. Final results coming soon.

Let’s stay committed to recycling and reducing, Runners!

Roadrunners reducing, reusing, recycling, redistributing

PLANT A TREE! Rooted in quality, Financial Services & University Bursar is breaking ground with the Surplus Property Department. The first 50 walk-in visitors to the Surplus Property Warehouse on Friday, April 21 will receive a free Bur Oak seedling. Walk-in hours are from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the warehouse on West Campus in the Center for Archeological Research (CAR) Building. Take your Spring Into Motion walk across campus and help the environment. Stop by ESHRM’s open house 10-1, especially the tree planting at 10:30. If you can’t make it to West Campus on Friday, go online and donate trees to be planted in the country of your choice. Then breathe easy.

UTSA Dining offers excellent sustainability initiatives. Per the UTSA Dining website, “Environmental sustainability is a fundamental part of our mission, guiding how we operate. We reduce our environmental impact through practices that enrich and support the natural environment.” Local purchasing, recycling, reusable to-go containers, and fryer oil recycling are just a few ways in which UTSA Dining works to make our campuses environmentally conscious. Learn more at utsa.campusdish.com. Join them on UC Paso April 17, 1-4 p.m.

From Concern to Effective Action: Individuals and the Environment

Mark your calendar for the second event in the UTSA Science & the Planet Series

Hosted by Business Affairs and the Sustainability Council, the event will be held:

Thursday, April 20, 6 – 7:00 p.m.
Bexar Room in the HEB University Center

Peter Bella, UTSA grad and former director of the Natural Resources Department of the Alamo Area Council of Governments (AACOG), will lead the discussion.

An air quality expert, Bella’s specialty is ground-level ozone. He plans to speak on addressing climate change policy on the local and state levels, as well as through NGOs and local voluntary actions. All are welcome.

How Green is UTSA

John Garcia of Spectrum News visited UTSA’s Community Garden on Monday, March 27. He interviewed student organizer Anthony Govea, Director of Sustainability Keith Muhlestein, and professor Lindsay Ratcliffe, Green Society advisor. Look for the story to air soon.
Leadership UTSA Shakes It Up

LUTSA update from participant Mark Parnin

For the month of March, LUTSA focused on getting everyone out of their comfort zone. A topic for a short documentary was chosen by each group and then each group had to make a movie on that topic. Each movie was shown to the class and discussed afterwards about how this topic could be implemented here at UTSA. This exercise was an experience in communication and collaboration from everyone in the group.

The second half of the day, Kathy Funk-Baxter of Business Affairs and her staff came to give everyone an overview of what each area does under Business Affairs. Kathy talked about the department’s values and principles and how it relates to the campus core values from the Blueprint.

Mark Parnin
Senior Project Manager
Facilities Department

FA/Accounting Services Welcomes Baby Charlie

On Feb. 16, 2017, Accountant Ashley Zaldivar and Javier Castillo welcomed into this world their little baby girl named Charlie Mia Castillo. Even though Charlie came a little early, she and mom are doing fine.

Dr. Reyes warmly greeted the honorees at the Service Milestone Appreciation Luncheon

First-Gen Story

I am a first gen college graduate student. My Mom only had a second-grade education and was a single parent. I am also an only child so, I really didn’t have anyone to help with school work but she was there every step of the way. Her wish and hope was for me to graduate high school but I did more than that. She was a wonderful woman who instilled so many wonderful things in me. She encouraged and supported me throughout my high school years. She was so wise despite her limited education. After I received my Bachelor’s degree, I didn’t tell my Mom that I was accepted into the Master’s program for at least two months. She was always worried that I worked full-time and went to school part-time.

My husband Mike and our daughter, Brittany, encouraged and supported me while I attend the weekend college at Our Lady of the Lake University to earned my Bachelor's degree in Business Management and shortly thereafter also earn my Masters in Organizational Leadership also from OLLU. At the time I was also working full-time at UTSA. I didn’t attend classes here at UTSA, because the weekend college schedule fit best at the time.

Linda G. Martinez, M.S.
Administrative Service Officer II, FA

Nearly 75 Business Affairs employees have achieved five-year milestones in serving the UTSA community. Thirteen are celebrating 15, 20, or 25 years of service, including Richard Garza (EHSRM/20yrs), Ruth Carrillo (PDS/20yrs), Dan Kiley (PD/20yrs), pictured above, and Dagoberto Rodriguez (Facilities/20yrs), right.

VPBA Kathy Funk-Baxter participated in the luncheon and congratulated many of the 100+ attendees.

UTSA faculty and staff are invited to participate in the San Antonio Sports Corporate Cup Saturday, June 3 7:15 am to 1:00 pm University of the Incarnate Word Register by Friday, April 21

See more BA first-gen college grads on p 11.
Send us your first-gen photo