

FAS NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2023





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The Pets of FAS....



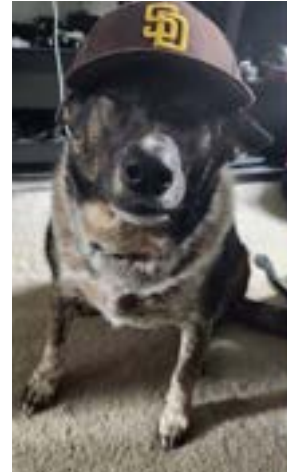
Bo Honour Shaw



Chicharrón Tran



Bruno Giacalone



Lola and Loki Wilson



Pepper Abu Yousef



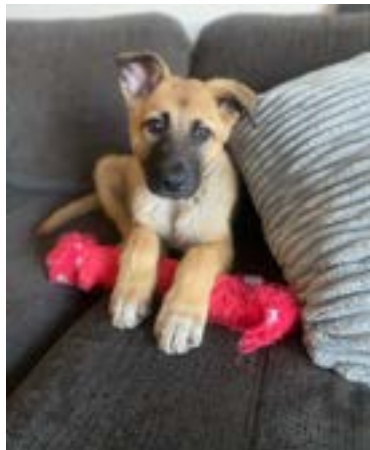
William Duncan



Kenny Masson



Aime Miller



Puppy Vera



Fiona & Ted Wall



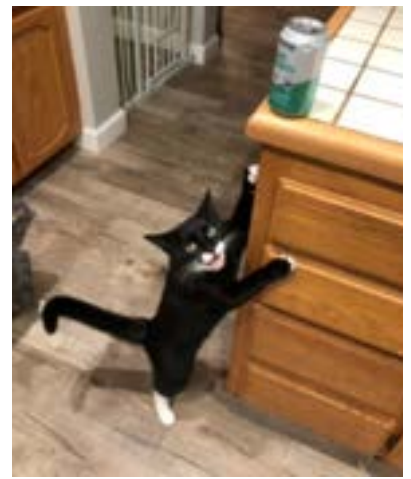
Puma McDonald



Harley Bun Bun McDonald



Gidget McDonald



Tilly McDonald



Milo McDonald



Ricky McDonald



Ms. Maisel & Mr. Jim Business-Agnew



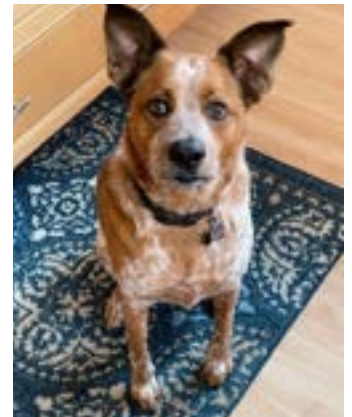
Luna Baldyga



T'Challa McLean



Harley Cumming



Cooper Cumming



Micah Banuelos Solorio



Renato Banuelos Solorio



Peque Banuelos Solorio



Midnight Banuelos Solorio



Spencer Bebee



Mack Bebee



Reux Bebee



KC Bebee



Cody Eldridge



Moose Martinez



The Weber Crew



Dixie Temnick



Nikita Frasca



Harley Frasca



Augie Phillips



Wilson Rosenberg



Bailey Marchand



Thor Zetina



Molly Drake



Hendrix Meyer



Bishop Manriquez



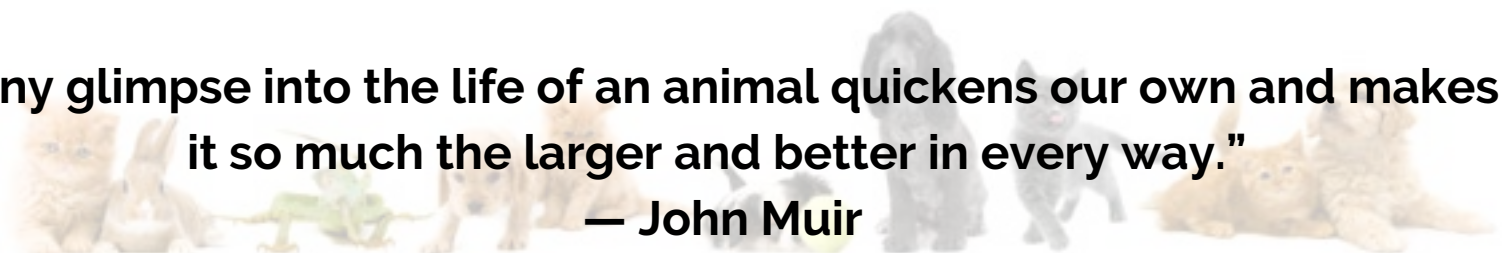
Fonzie Gruber



Pumpkin Lopez

“Any glimpse into the life of an animal quickens our own and makes it so much the larger and better in every way.”

— John Muir





Mr. Pickles and Ossito Ohm



Nala Lopez



Cali and Kenny Burkland



Maple Brown



Maya Brown



Rosie and Bailee Brotcke



Kona Rivera



Akira Rivera



Kamea Rivera

Sustainability Corner

Sustainability has been busy this semester with events, behind-the-scenes efforts, and program development.

Earth Month (April) was filled with plenty of events including the Climate and Justice Teach-In and the Earth Day Fair. In addition, we had our "Stories for the Planet" art exhibition. Stories for the Planet extended from Barrio Logan to the Pacific beaches and reach Burundi's waters. This exhibition showcased art by the inaugural cohort of the Planet Mentorship program where the goal is to grow, what we call, future change makers.

Growing Future Change Makers: Restorative Pathways for Diverse Students and the Planet was created under the collaborative direction of the Sustainability Program and **Juliana Goodlaw-Morris**, the Office of Inclusive Excellence and **Ariel Stevenson**, and Center ARTES and Lucy HG Solomon. The program connects student success and curricular innovation around sustainability and social justice, paving the way for students of color to become change-makers for the planet. There was an initial donor for the planet mentorship program that advancement helped secure under the inclusive sustainability efforts and we are up for a second year of funding for this pilot program.

This art exhibit is available to view on the 4th floor of the Kellogg Library at the Data Stacks, located between the elevator and stairwell.



As we continue to make progress on our campus wide sustainability goals it is important to track and share our efforts and data. At the beginning of the spring semester we published the first rendition of our new Sustainability Data Dashboard. This dashboard is publicly available on our website and showcases our sustainability trends. Currently, we have our waste data dating back from 2018 to 2022 but the goal is to include water, transportation, and energy data as well as engagement statistics. Our hope for this data dashboard is that students, staff and faculty can utilize our sustainability metrics for class projects or to better understand where we are in meeting our sustainability goals. In addition, having accessible and transparent data is beneficial for our campus community. We are looking forward to expanding the Sustainability Data Dashboard in the coming months and utilizing it for reporting purposes.

Lastly, this May not only marks the end of the semester, but it is also a time when our students living in on-campus housing are moving out of the dorms. This is a massive undertaking for the Sustainability Team, as we collect thousands of pounds of items that we re-gift back out to the campus community in the Fall, donate to the Cougar Pantry and engage with our Goodwill partnership to take things we are not able to re-gift on campus. This year we reached out to the wider campus community to support this effort and help table and sort during the weeks leading up to move-out. We had so many new and returning volunteers from FAS and we would like to publicly thank them for their support.

Thank you's go to - **Brittani Brown, Regina Frasca, Shannon Shaw, Amber Perez, Andrea Wilson, Erika Zetina, Vanessa Rivera, Noella Richer, Abigail Knox, Susie Martinez, Amber Giacalone, Toni Shields and Megan Lombardo.**

Updates and Accolades

VPFAS

Employees of the Month



Edith Nuno was awarded "Employee of the Month" for March! And **Amber Giacalone** was awarded "Employee of the Month" for April. We are so proud of them and all of the work that they do for our campus.

.....

Business Officer Program Series

The Business Officer Program Series has been a huge success thanks to a joint effort between Administration, Business and Financial Services and IITS. We have completed 12 trainings with a total of 115 people trained to date. Our next session is in August - Spread the word!



Welcome to the team!

Andrea (Drea) Wilson will join VPFAS on July 1 to support our expanded CSULearn effort. Our goals are to re-imagine reporting, assignment, and compliance, including our auxiliary employees. Can you think of anyone better to lead the charge? We can't! We are thrilled to have Drea on our team!

Jason Mendoza recently joined our Travel Department as a travel analyst. His experience in customer service is extensive - and we are already hearing how easy he is to work with. Fun fact about Jason - he is a huge Padres fan. Next time you see him, try to stump him with some Padres trivia.



Congratulations **Garrett Hollenbeck!** Many of you may have met him as our student assistant - but more of you know him as our rockstar travel analyst. He received his Master of Business Administration in Business Analytics this year - and we couldn't be more proud!

.....

UPDATES & ACCOLADES

Safety, Health, and Sustainability (SH&S)



It all started as part of the FAS giving challenge. **Vance Kekoa**, **George Williams**, and **Marissa Acosta** participated in a ride from SDSU to CSUSM. SH&S raised money for an initiative that would benefit the CSU Shiley Haynes Palliative Care Institute (CSUSHIPC). The team called themselves the Pathfinders and (on a rainy day) rode their little hearts out to benefit students that were battling debilitating diseases or caring for family members in such circumstances. Since then, independently, and individually, Vance has completed a 10-mile run to celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the CSUSHIPC in the Pathfinder name. He is now collaborating with Dr. Sharon Hamill, Executive Director of CSUSHIPC, to spread the message of their Pathfinders vision. Last April, Vance completed a 100-mile bike ride to bring awareness to National Healthcare Decisions Day while continuing to blaze the trail as a Pathfinder. We would like to thank **Chief Flores** for assisting with the coordination of University Police representatives to welcome Vance back to campus from his ride. We participated in the [Pauma Tribal Farms 5K](#) on 5/13 with Dr. Prado-Olmos and some other Pathfinder friends. Please join us as we continue raising awareness for this initiative. Check out the Pathfinders, join the Pathfinders in their next event, or donate to CSUSHIPC by supporting the Pathfinders initiative.

IMAGINE the difference we can make in student success ~ **LEARN** what palliative care is and how this program is changing lives ~ **PEDAL** (run) along their path and be part of something big ~ **THRIVE** through the Power of Us! - **Vance Kekoa**



UPDATES & ACCOLADES



Marissa Acosta graduated from Fresno State with her Masters's Degree in Education Administration and Leadership.



Erika Zetina was accepted into the Master's in Social Work program at CSU San Marcos.



George Williams of SH&S participated in his first Deka Fit competition this May. The Greeks were the first on record to gamify and test fitness and the Greek term DEKA means ten. The Deka events provide 10 functional fitness zones to test and compete in. Spartan DEKA events consist of three (3) specific endurance/athletic category levels - DEKA Strong, DEKA Mile, and DEKA Fit (which is the most difficult of the three).

George not only completed the event but he placed 4th place in his age group category. The top 12 participants on the Global/Worldwide Leaderboard are eligible to receive an email invitation to attend the DEKA World Championships. He currently ranks #10 in his age group. We are very proud of George and encourage him toward the World Championships as an original CSU Pathfinder.

UPDATES & ACCOLADES

University Police (UPD)



This year UPD took home the coveted Holiday Giving Challenge revolving trophy! They shopped, prepped and served dinner to 50 residents of the Haven House Homeless Shelter in Escondido twice! They also assembled and delivered 300 sack lunches to Interfaith Services for their food insecurity program. They made 40 handmade holiday cards - half were sent to soldiers overseas and half were delivered to a local senior home to give to residents who may not have visitors over the holidays. AND, they organized a "Toys for Tots" drive in the lobby of PSB as well. Way to go!

Welcome Christina Abernathy & Officer Barajas!



Christina joined Parking & Commuter Services as our new Customer Service Representative. Christina loves Elvis Presley, homemade pizza and Maine in the fall. She also enjoys talking to everyone - so, if you see her on campus make sure to say hello!

Officer Barajas joined UPD as a new Police Officer. He enjoys mountain biking, pizza, and could probably quote the entire movie John Wick! He believes that you should try everything at least once! Welcome to CSUSM Officer Barajas!



UPD participated in Cougar Blue Day! They provided alcohol awareness education for our students - and it was a huge hit!



Emergency Management has held trainings for our Building Marshals - including evacuation training and fire extinguisher training. Building Marshals are still needed in Academic Hall, SBSB, and the Administrative Building. **If you are interested in becoming a Building Marshal contact TJ Robertson.**

UPDATES & ACCOLADES

Procurement & Contracts

Welcome to the Team!



Angela Sanchez! Angela came to us from the Travel Office, and we're so happy to have her on our team. Angela spent time with our team during the pandemic, and we're so happy to have her back!



Sheldon Chang! Sheldon has Procurement experience in another CSU as well as a background in IT. Sheldon is a wonderful addition to the CSUSM Procurement and Contracts team!

We would like to congratulate **Khulood Abu Yousef** from Procurement on being CSUSM's Employee of the Month for March 2023! Congratulations, Khulood! We appreciate everything you do for campus and the Procurement and Contracts department every day!

Have a procurement or contracts question? Hop on over to the Procurement & Contracts Office Hours. We're here to chat and help every Thursday at 1 pm via Zoom at:
<https://csusm.zoom.us/j/89855094877>.



UPDATES & ACCOLADES

FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT

NEW EMPLOYEES



James Stastny



Marina Torres



Sherry Guzman



Feliciano Galindo



Judith Jiminez



Colton Stewart

PROMOTIONS

We are excited to announce the following promotions:

- **Eric Deinhardt** was promoted to Lead Painter.
 - **Zinab Sahial** was promoted to Work Control Admin
-

UPDATES & ACCOLADES

FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT

FDM Administration

A Day In The Life

Starting March 3rd **Amber Perez** started "a day in the life" of each of the shops of FDM. The objective is to learn more about the working world of the teams supported by FDMA while building relationships along the way. The full journey is nearly complete with only a few more shops left to shadow. **Brianna Madson and Noella Richer** also joined in the fun with a day of shadowing the Central Plant team. This has been a collaborative effort including all FDM leadership, shop leads, and even SHS making sure we knew how to be safe alongside the boots on the ground keeping our campus operational.



What we are proud of:

Brianna Madson and Noella Richer collaborated with our EMUS controls specialists, FS lock shop, and UPD to find a more efficient way to support requests from ECS. Everyone is pleased to roll out the "HVAC, Lock & Unlock Event Requests" form which has been active since February and is now fully adopted by ECS.

- During the last few months, the auto shop has received 8 campus vehicles allowing FDM to finish the development of a new system for incoming vehicles. The solution is complete with an initiation form, automation to all involved parties, and required document tracking. Once complete, the record automatically feeds the fleet management schedule to FDM. Kudos to **Megan Lombardo** and **Jennifer Whitney** with **Amber Perez** for their commitment to this effort.
- Congratulations to **Cesar Alumbres** for being selected as Employee of the Month for May!
- **Gabe Paramo**, our Distribution Services Student assistant, was interviewed for the March Alzheimer's Volunteer newsletter as Volunteer of the Month!



Two of our Distribution Services members, **Bart** (Property Clerk) and **Debbie** (Lead), went to the 2023 CSU Business Conference at the end of April. Bart and Debbie attended sessions regarding Campus Physical Inventory, Property Equipment Procedures, Asset Management, Shipping/Receiving, and Mail Services.



UPDATES & ACCOLADES

FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT

Facility Services

FDM had a grand opening in late January to celebrate the new Custodial Space in Commons. The Custodian's new home is a one stop shop for all their custodial supplies and needs. The space includes a breakroom, locker rooms, a warehouse for their supplies as well as offices for the manager and it is centrally located in the heart of the campus!



Thank you, our anonymous campus partner who let us know that **"The FDM team looks like superheroes in their gear powering through all the elements."** We think they're pretty amazing too!

What we are proud of:

- Facilities Services in collaboration with Safety, Health and Sustainability is working hard to prepare for the annual Safety Fair. The Safety Fair is an entire workday dedicated to Safety. There are demonstrations, classroom training and vendors on site to display the latest in safety equipment.
- Congratulations to **Dennis Quiroga** for completing his training in Basic Masterkeying!



Congratulations to **Obdulia Perez Soriano** who was selected as Employee of the Year! We are so proud of you!



UPDATES & ACCOLADES

FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT

Energy Management & Utility Services

Congratulations to **David Wilson!** He was selected as Employee of the Month for April!



Rene Carrillo earned his Building Operator Certificate II accreditation!



Heather Burkland completed the Women in Facilities Program through the Chancellor's Office.



Projects that we are proud of:

- The Central Plant personnel are gearing up to replace the Clarke Field House chiller in the summertime. Be on the lookout for the crane! They are also prepping to replace several HVAC units in University Hall, Academic Hall, and Science 2.
- Lighting upgrades were made at Markstein Hall and University Hall this winter. The corridors were retrofitted with LED lights using occupancy sensors. As a person enters the area, these lights will automatically turn on. When the corridors are empty, the lights will automatically turn off. A few of these lights will stay on continuously for safety and security reasons. These projects have eliminated touchpoints for the campus community and will reduce our electricity usage, bringing the campus one step closer to reaching our greenhouse gas reduction goals and meeting our carbon neutrality milestones!
- We will be replacing the campus' Building Automation System. This system controls, monitors, and schedules the HVAC and lights in all buildings remotely from a computer. This multi-year project will go live later this spring.

The Central Plant team is also about to hire a new Building Service Engineer Apprentice. Apprenticeships are a 4-year program where a person earns school credit and has on the job training to learn a skilled trade while being mentored by an experienced journey person. At the end of the program, the apprentice graduates as a card-carrying journey person with mechanical skills related to HVAC, pumps, motors, construction, welding, and knowledge in electricity, thermodynamics, and physics.

UPDATES & ACCOLADES

FACILITIES DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT

Planning, Design & Construction

You may have noticed CSUSM has some new outdoor furniture throughout campus. Much of the existing outdoor furniture was weathered, worn and in need of replacement. Thanks in large part to HEERF funding, FDM was able to order a variety of new outdoor furniture to promote outdoor learning and enhance campus common areas.



Made of highly durable, environmentally sustainable, and low-maintenance materials. This furniture is designed to last which will save our campus on both replacement and maintenance costs.

Go check out the bright blue pieces near the Dome and at Tukwut Court!



Especially popular is the "pixel" seating. You have probably seen these seating arrangements in front of Kellogg and near the Administrative Building's fourth-floor entrance. These pieces are highly versatile as they can be taken apart and reconfigured as space needs and patterns of use evolve. The new benches and chairs are an invitation to share space, stay longer and connect!



UPDATES & ACCOLADES

Office of Human Resources (OHR)



Employee Service Awards were held January 19, 2023 - honoring staff, MPP, and faculty employees who have made California State University San Marcos a great place to work and continue to fulfill the University's mission. The Annual Employee Service Celebration recognizes employees who reach anniversary milestones in 5-year increments. Congrats to our very own **Melanie Hobbs** (20 years), **Penny Pritchett** (10 years) and **Chelsea Gruber** (5 years)

Susie Martinez (left) received the MPP to Staff award at our Spring Division Meeting. An excerpt from her nomination read, "Her spirit is infectious, and people are always sure to be welcomed with a 'Susie Smile' when visiting the Office of Human Resources. Her attitude, efficiency, and customer service mentality are unparalleled!" Congrats Susie!

We have recently had a couple of promotions within our subdivision. **Ed Dikitanan** has become the new Workers' Compensation and Benefits Analyst. **Susie Martinez** has become our Senior Human Resources Coordinator

2nd Annual Cougar Coffee Break



Mobile Health Visit



What we are up to...

- **Toni** and **Susan** are working on attaining Gallup Strength Coach certification!
- Principles of Supervision just wrapped up with their April cohort.
- 1:1 appointment with Fidelity are back on campus! A CSUSM specific webinar will be held on June 12th - "Getting Started with CSU 403b"
- HR Analysts transitioned from a generalist model to a specialist model. In the new specialist model, the HR Analysts will specialize in either Talent Acquisition (recruitment) or Classification/Compensation.

Be on the lookout for a FUN summer event - details to come!

UPDATES & ACCOLADES

Office of Human Resources (OHR)

Valentine's Day Grams



Campus Connect Graduating Class of 2023



Our 2023 Campus Connect Graduates! Campus Connect has returned to in-person sessions. Since its beginning in 2005, Campus Connect has offered participants a broad perspective of California State University San Marcos and how campus divisions and departments are interconnected. Roughly 30 participants representing a broad cross-section of the campus community are selected each year. Over nine class sessions, each cohort learns what other employees, including faculty, administrators and staff do to support the mission of the university and meet its strategic priorities.

A huge thank you to **Toni Shields** for running this amazing program!

UPDATES & ACCOLADES

Staff Center

Grand Opening and Art Gallery Unveiling

On Feb. 23, over 100 people joined us as we celebrated the grand opening of our Commons location.

We also unveiled our first **art gallery exhibit showcasing six staff artists**. For three of our artists, this is the first time they have ever displayed their work in public. Be sure to stop by and check out their amazing work. The current exhibit runs through June 30.

We are now accepting submissions for our Fall 2023 exhibit. All non-MPP staff are invited to submit their work. If you would like to exhibit your art, please take a moment to fill out our [Interest Form](#). We will reach out to those who are interested with more information.



Synergy Groups

We also opened the CSUSM Synergy groups. Synergy groups provide an opportunity for faculty, staff and MPPs to network outside of their department while discussing fun topics such as hiking, Disney and gardening.

The Sustainable Living group held a meet-up for members in front of Campus Coffee. Members brought their own cups to the event and received a discount on their drinks.

The Healthy Lifestyle group has given its members a healthy option to get away from their desks during their morning and afternoon breaks. The group meets outside the University Library at 10 and 2 for a quick 15-minute walking break.

Visit our [website](#) to sign-up or learn more about our 13 Synergy groups.



Teambuilding

As a thank you to our incredible **Custodial Services team**, the Staff Center recently hosted teambuilding events at our Commons location. We took some time to get to know each other and joined in a bit of friendly competition. We had a blast and can't wait until next time!

Networking Socials

Networking Socials are held at different times every month. Our first social, held on March 16, was a brown bag lunch and the Staff Center provided dessert. These events are open to all non-MPP staff.

You can RSVP for future Networking Socials [here](#).



UPDATES & ACCOLADES

Corporation and Office of Sponsored Projects



CSUSM Corporation Administration and the Office of Sponsored Projects staff hosted a Spring donation drive collecting food, school supplies and toiletries that were donated to the Cougar Pantry. Additional items were donated by a local service organization, Escondido Sunrise Rotary. Thank you, everyone, for your participation in this event.

Brenda Hovis, has been promoted to Commercial Services Manager. In her new role, Brenda will support the commercial services operations including dining and catering, summer conferences, vending, pouring rights, university store, and more.

What we are up to...

In the fall, the Office of Sponsored Projects and Graduate Studies and Research are teaming up to host a workshop for the research community. The workshop will introduce the pre and post-award teams, discuss our services that support sponsored projects, share resources, and more!

CSUSM Corporation has partnered with Follett and Sodexo to bring CSUSM merchandise into the two dining markets and also partnered with CSUSM Athletics to bring branded fan gear into the University Store.



Welcome to the Team!

We are pleased to announce that **Leslie Brotcke** has joined the Office of Sponsored Projects as our newest OSP analyst.

Leslie comes to us with over 20 years of experience in accounting and finance management roles. Most recently, Leslie was Accounting Manager for California State University Channel Islands and their four auxiliaries. In this role, she managed financial reporting, grant accounting, accounts payable, accounts receivable and treasury functions. Fun facts about Leslie: She ran a marathon, climbed Mt. Whitney and lived in Hong Kong for two years! Welcome to CSUSM Leslie!

UPDATES & ACCOLADES

Instructional & Information Technology Services

What we are proud of...



Our information security team (**John Humes, Javier Esparza Piña, John Romanski and Kyle Martin**) received the Vice President's Award for Spring 2023!

Their commitment to maintaining the highest level of security standards, keeping up with the latest trends and technologies, and implementing effective practices has undoubtedly been instrumental in preventing cyber-attacks and mitigating potential security breaches on our campus!

Congratulations on a job well done!

Our Graduates

CLASSROOM SUPPORT SERVICES

Anthony Law, Master's in Cybersecurity

Zachariah Crane, Bachelor's in Management Information Systems (Student)

Nicholas Sumabat, Bachelor's in Kinesiology (Student)

TELECOMM & NETWORK OPERATIONS

Emily Arango, Bachelor's in Software Engineering

Ernest Rising, Bachelor's in Computer Science

Mandar Hanchate, Master's in Computer Science (Student)

STUDENT HELP DESK

Gabriel Fordice, Bachelor's in Biochemistry

Jose Gonzalez, Bachelor's in Software Engineering (Student)

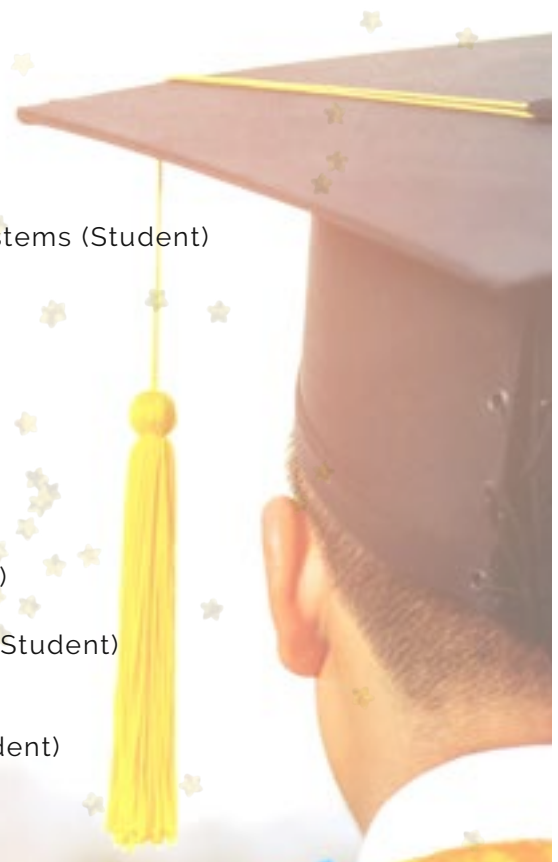
Liam Nelson, Bachelor's in Computer Science (Student)

Jay Pablo, Bachelor's in Management Information Systems (Student)

Sagar Pathak, Master's in Computer Science (Student)

Shay Ramirez, Bachelor's in Computer Science (Student)

Michael Shanahan, Bachelor's in Software Engineering (Student)



UPDATES & ACCOLADES

Instructional & Information Technology Services (Cont)

Cougar Blue Day



Liam Nelson and **Gabe Fordice** at Cougar Blue Day - providing vital tech support for our students, faculty and staff! Did anyone else notice how fast and efficiently everyone checked in to the event? Thank you IITS for working your magic!

iStudios in full production mode!



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- Live & Online Studio (Staffed Studio Space)

Schedule an iStudios tour [here!](#)



UPDATES & ACCOLADES

Business & Financial Services

Student Financial Services



The SFS Team pulled together to support Cougar Blue Day this April. **Judy Sandmann**, Administrative Analyst in SFS, presented "How to Pay for CSUSM" to a packed house of new students and their families. Judy's presentation covered questions regarding tuition rates, due dates, and FERPA. SFS also staffed two tables, one in Tukwut Courtyard and the other in the Veteran's Center, to assist with questions regarding tuition, fees, and the Cal Vet Fee waiver program. **Thank you, SFS, for supporting our students and families.**

Nasrin DeCoux (left), an accountant in Student Financial Services, received the Managers' Award to Staff for outstanding quality of work and attitude. Nasrin is always willing to help both students and staff regardless of whether it's part of her job description. We are very proud of Nasrin and so glad she is part of the BFS Sub-Division.

Fiscal Services

The Fiscal Services team was gratified to receive the following email from VP Wyden congratulating them on their hard work, success, and recognition:

Dear Fiscal Services Team,

I was thrilled to learn that **our campus has been recognized as one of the top performers in the CSU system** for the quality and timeliness of our legal and GAAP reporting submissions. This is a testament to your hard work, dedication, and expertise. As a result of our exceptional financial reporting, **our campus has also been selected to be featured on the cover of the financial statements for the system.** This is a significant achievement and reflects the high standards of excellence that we strive for every day.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to each member of the fiscal services team for your continued dedication and commitment to ensuring the accuracy and integrity of our financial reporting. Your hard work has not gone unnoticed.

This recognition is well-deserved, and it is a testament to the tireless efforts of each member of the fiscal services team who have worked diligently to implement new accounting pronouncements and ensure that our financial statements are complete, accurate, and in compliance with all regulatory requirements.

Once again, **congratulations on this well-deserved recognition**, and keep up the excellent work!

Best regards,

Leon

UPDATES & ACCOLADES

Conferences and Trainings

The **Fiscal Services Auxiliary Accounting Team**, and **Matias Farre**, attended the Auxiliary Organizations Association (AOA) conference in Sacramento this past January. Our staff managed to weather the disruptive flooding in the Sacramento Valley, some moving hotel rooms when necessary and all made it home safely.

In April, thirteen members of the BFS team attended the 2023 CSU Business Conference. Four of our staff were first-time attendees -- **Aaron Alvarez, Tammy Marchand, Heidi Salinas, and Erica Thissell**. These annual conferences are great opportunities to learn and collaborate on topics and issues that are crucial to stateside, auxiliaries, enterprise operations, and the CSU system, as well as network with other attendees.

Fiscal Services, Accounts Payable, and the Budget Office participated in new CSUSM training opportunities as part of the **Business Officer Program Series** and **Leadership How To** training. These training courses are tailored to the various campus constituents. They are an excellent opportunity to educate, share updates to forms and processes, and dive into some of the unique nuances of various scenarios.



Welcome to the Team!



We are delighted to have **Joyce Lee** join us as our new Auxiliary Accountant in Fiscal Services. Joyce graduated from San Diego State University with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Accounting and comes to us with over ten years of Accounting experience. Joyce previously worked in Bioscience, consumer goods, and the food industry. In her free time, Joyce enjoys hiking and likes to watch basketball games.

Fun facts about Joyce:

1. Joyce could max out a credit card at Costco!
2. If asked to choose any other era to live in...it would be the 90s - less social media and more time to enjoy life!
3. Joyce could eat pasta every day for a month!

Welcome to CSUSM **Joyce!**

Thank You Notes

Thank you **Accounts Payable Team** for all of your solid work these past few months in creating and presenting trainings to our campus community! I honestly appreciate the "can-do" attitude and work to improve the AP experience!

-Diana Cumming

We would like to thank the **Procurement** team for their partnership, collaboration, and solution-oriented approach. You all are a wonderful team to work with, and we genuinely appreciate you! Thank you for all you do for the University.

- Erin and Audrey

Thank you **Regina Frasca, Juliana Goodlaw-Morris, Lisa McLean, Pablo Chavez, Marianne Wall, Diana Cumming, Lindsay Swensen, Barbara Sainz, Randy Duncan, and Shannon Honour Shaw** for creating your Leadership How-to training classes!

-Toni Shields

Vanessa Rivera - You are truly valuable and I am so appreciative of all your hard work and dedication. We couldn't do it without you! Thank you!

-Drea Wilson

Thank you, **Procurement & Contracts**, for always coming to my aid. You answer my endless questions clearly and, most significantly, with patience. You are always available to guide me through the Procurement process. I appreciate you all!

-Jill Heath

Alex Garcia - thank you for your help with our cell coverage issues. We know it's a grind and appreciate you continuing to push this forward.

-Virginia Berman

Thank you **Erika Zetina** for being a part of our team! You've kept us going with CCDC and have been always ready to help with anything. We will miss you, but are so excited to see you start your new journey in the MSW program. You got this!

-Drea Wilson

A gigantic thank you to **GEORGE WILLIAMS** for the MONUMENTAL effort it takes to put on the FDM Safety Fair event each year. I have had a front-row seat witnessing the talent and experience you bring to the SHS Department. Simply put, the Safety Fair would not have become what it is today if not for your skill sets and stamina. You are DEKA STRONG!

-Vance Kekoa

Thank you and congrats **Fiscal Services Stateside and Auxiliary Accounting** for all of your hard work that led us to being in the top 10 campuses in financial reporting and making it to the front cover of the CSU Financial Statements!! I am sincerely grateful of all of the work that goes into such an achievement!

-Diana Cumming

Thank you, **Kristin Erickson**, for all your foresight, intuitive problem-solving, and mind-reading abilities!!

- Erin and Audrey

Thank you **Gina Frasca and Drea Wilson** for being so helpful and knowledgeable during our transition to CSULearn! I don't know what I would do without your institutional knowledge!

-Shannon Honour Shaw

Thank you **Travis Honeycutt** for all of your fantastic work helping implement technical projects for SFS!

-Jason Drake

Thank You Notes

Marissa Acosta - Your hard work does not go unnoticed. Thanks for being an advocate for sustainability on our campus! I am excited to see the impact on our campus.

-Drea Wilson

Thank you **Maria Chiem** for being such a hard-working team member - and being such a great source of support for your colleagues!

-Laura Coward

Many thanks, **IITS!!** So many of your departments have helped me to be successful in my position at CSUSM. I am grateful for the technical assistance, problem-solving, equipment provision, access requests, and more. Thank you for your continued support.

-Jill Heath.

Thank you **Karen Karleen**, and **Ray** for all of our support! Not only do you tackle any challenge we throw your way, but your graciousness and thoughtfulness raise your customer service to the next level!!

-Diana Cumming

Thank you **Scott Gorsuch** for all of your help with the "Project that Shall Not Be Named". Your time with the job walks and reviewing documents is so very appreciated.

~Heather Burkland

Thank you **Gina & Jr.** for all of your support and guidance. Without your mentorship and advocacy, I don't think I would have the confidence in my professional abilities that I now have today. SH&S Forever!

-Drea Wilson

Lindsay and the Procurement Team - thank you all for your partnership. We appreciate the experience and guidance you provide, and your flexibility that seems to be never-ending! Thank you all!

-Virginia Berman

Adm. Bldg Façade project team - thanks for making this major repair and completing all the furniture requests and moves.

-Mark Norita

A gracious thank you to **PATRICK PELONERO** for the professional courtesy of following up with logistic support in my office space. Perhaps more importantly, our excellent conversation about risks associated with specific choices in life; which you nicely framed by citing the comments made by legendary MotoGP World Champion Valentino Rossi about his potentially disastrous near-miss in the 2020 Austrian Grand Prix. Sharing a story of what could have happened has the power to shift perspectives for others. Grazie mille!

-Vance Kekoa

Thank you **Jill Heath and Amber Giacalone** for helping me with the BOPS website and sign up forms. Thank you Lindsay Swensen, Barb Sainz, Chris Fernandez, Sharon McIntosh, Jon Epes, Jeff Hall, Randy Duncan, John Humes, and Tasos Lazarides for being wonderful BOPS presenters! We had a such a great pilot semester!!

-Shannon Honour Shaw

Thank you **Lisa Tran!** The EM&US team is so grateful for all that you do. Thank you for always being so helpful and answering our questions quickly!

~Heather Burkland

Thank you to **Lindsay Swensen** for being the best onboarding buddy and mentor! I enjoyed our bi-weekly walking chats then, and happy that we maintained the closeness that I could randomly stop by your office anytime for a quick hello or if I need assistance with a project.

-May Flores

Debbie Russo - thank you for working when the campus was closed to make sure everyone's paychecks went out. We appreciate you!

-Virginia Berman

Thanks to all that completed the Administrative Building name change - great job.

-Mark Norita

Thank You Notes

Carlos/Doug/Melissa – thank you for always being there to support us and continuing to help us resolve our tech issues.

-Virginia Berman

Thank you to **Gina Frasca and the SHS team** for welcoming me to the 4700 suite and always treating me as their own! Thank you for housing me in an office with a beautiful view and including me in your suite's events. But most importantly, I am fortunate for the camaraderie I have built with the SHS team.

-May Flores

I want to express my gratitude and appreciation for the support and care I have received from the amazing **ATS team. Barbara Taylor, Becky Williams, Terri Georgopolous, Susan Eldridge and Monica Munoz** have been unfalteringly supportive and flexible during a tumultuous time when I needed to be available for family care. This amazing team gave me the peace of mind to know that they are there for and with me. They are a wonderful team that pulls together and works as such a strong unit. I have seen them do amazing things for the faculty and go above and beyond in their instructional design and dedication to all at CSUSM. In all of my 40 working years, I have never felt so honored to be a part of a team.

-Michelle Kinzel

Thank you to the best team ever at 5311 Suite, led by our wonderful leader **VP Wyden!** Thank you also to **Brittani Brown, Edith Nuño, Amber Giacalone, Shannon Honour Shaw, and Candace Bebee, plus Susan O'Connor and Toni Shields** at HR! I couldn't have easily transitioned to this role without your friendship and guidance. I am very fortunate to have the best work family!

-May Flores

James and Janine – Thank you for helping to push through the campus lease agreements and costs. I look forward to having this behind us (as I am sure you do!)

-Virginia Berman

Thank you **Veronica Ohm!** You are the glue that binds. Thank you for your support and for ensuring every task happens flawlessly.

-Heather Burkland

Michelle Tanner – a huge thank you from Distribution Services and me for resolving our desktop delivery issues! This saves our team about 15-20 deliveries a day!

-Virginia Berman

Noella: Thank you for your dedication to teamwork and for always seeing the positive in everyone, you are truly appreciated.

-Jennifer Whitney

I want to thank **all of FDM** for another successful academic year. You all kept the campus up and running, clean and safe. We completed many projects, repairs, and inspections that contribute to the campus mission. You are an incredible team and I appreciate all you do.

-Mark Norita

Thank you to **Vanessa Rivera and Amber Giacalone** for the inspiring idea and **Brittani Brown** for entertaining and supporting our ranch day pilot, which grew into a continuous subdivision team event!

-May Flores

Thank you to my Campus Connect 2023 family for a wonderful experience! Especially to **Toni Shields** for putting together a great class, and my classmates **Marissa Acosta (SHS), Susie Martinez (HR), Alondra Gutierrez (ASI), Chloe Grogan (previously ECS), and Dean Liora Gubkin (CHABSS)** for being my go-to familiar and friendly faces!

-May Flores

FDM Admin team – thanks for supporting FDM with all the various requests, needed help, deliveries, and inventory.

-Mark Norita

Thank You Notes

Veronica, Megan and Karina – Thank you for supporting of FDM with a smile and can-do attitude. We are lucky to have each of you!

-Virginia Berman

Thanks to all the folks that got ELB and UVA back up and running after the floods.

-Mark Norita

Thank you **Ian Irvine** for managing the campus' latest energy efficiency project! The new motion-activated lights in Markstein and University Hall look great and will help bring this campus one step closer to meeting our carbon neutrality goals.

~Heather Burkland

Thanks to everyone that got the campus through all the heavy rains we had this year – great job.

-Mark Norita

Thank you to **Diana Cumming and Barb Sainz** for always taking the time to assist me with my projects! For my recent projects, I needed information from accounting, and both of you were very accommodating in your busy days to respond to my information requests.

-May Flores

To all the people that setup, contracted, bought, installed and constructed all the HEERF projects – thank you. It was a lot, but the campus is better off due to your hard work.

-Mark Norita

Thank you to **Lindsay Swensen** and **Kerry Stein** who got the extremely complex and everchanging Affordable Housing contract off the ground. Thanks to **Randy Duncan, Matias Farre, Diana Cumming and Will Marchese** for the efforts on the financial side. And thank you **Mark Norita and Rayanne Weber** for the project scope efforts.

-Brittani Brown