

# UNLV FACILITIES MANAGEMENT NEWSLETTER

## *AVP Greeting*

Dear FM Family,

Happy Chinese New Year!



I am happy that Heather Ortiz, Business Affairs Director of Communications, opened the recent Business Affairs All Staff Meeting with this greeting. It also brought a smile to my face as I reflected on a small fact you may not know: That in the early 1980s, my dad established one of the first Chinese restaurants in Northern Nigeria. Accompanying my mom and one of my brothers on a trip to Hong Kong in advance of the opening remains

FEBRUARY 2022

February also brought a phenomenon with little likely precedent in UNLV FM: We began the month with over 60 job vacancies in the department (over 20% of our budgeted positions), but thanks to the hard work and dedication of many, the first wave of new hires into, and promotions within our Facilities Management family took place. Please take some time to look at the names and positions in the newsletter and please join our UNLV leadership, Business affairs leadership, and the FM leadership team in congratulating everyone who was promoted this month, and in welcoming our new FM members. My deepest gratitude to everyone who helped source candidates, referred friends, family members, or former colleagues, served on search committees, and so on.

I will wait to congratulate you in person at your unit(s) and listen to how I can support you. Learning and Development will continue to be a strong focus area for us, so count on it. Help is on the way!

Let me close with one more note of recognition. Uber congratulations to Christopher West, Administrative Assistant 3 with our Shadow Lane Campus FM team, on being named a 2021 Business Affairs Employee of the Year! With over 500 staff in the division, it is truly a big deal and a well-deserved accomplishment.



## *FM February Work Anniversaries*

HVACR Specialist 1

HVACR Specialist 1

HVACR Specialist 1

HVACR Specialist 1

Grounds Supervisor 2

Plumber 1

# *New Employees, Promotions, Resignations and Retirements for the Month of February*

## **Student Workers**

Ryan Backman –  
(FMIT)

Edwin Cardona Cortez –  
(FMIT)

## **Full Time Employees:**

Terry Milligan –  
(Accounting Technician 1)  
Transfer from CSN

Alex Henriquez –  
(Custodial Worker 1)

Teneshia Spencer –  
(Custodial Worker 1)

Alexander Goodwin –  
(HVACR Specialist 1)

Heriberto Moreno –  
(Grounds Maintenance Worker 2)

## **Promotions**

Yahsin Armstrong –  
(Facility Supervisor 1 with Rebel  
Recycling  
previously Custodial Worker 2)

Jorge Vargas –  
(Grounds Supervisor 2 previously  
Grounds Maintenance Worker 5)

Marlon Ratliff –  
(Custodial Supervisor 1 previously  
Custodial Worker 2)

Colin Switalski –  
(Custodial Supervisor 1  
previously Custodial Worker 2)  
**previous 10 >> specialist 1 previously**

Donni Rincon –  
(Custodial Supervisor 1  
previously Custodial Worker 1)

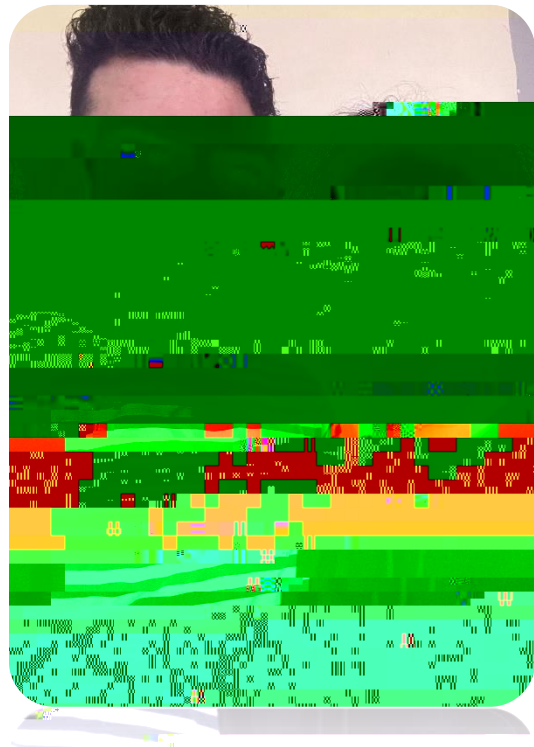
Gary Gray –  
(HVACR Specialist 1 previously  
Maintenance Repair Worker 3)

# *FM Employee Spotlight*

*Samah & Rana Ghosn | FM IT & FM Accounting*

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# *Diversity Corner*

## *Chinese New Year | February 1<sup>st</sup>*

Happy Chinese New Year! Chinese New Year is the festival that celebrates the beginning of a new year on the traditional Lunisolar and Solar Chinese Calendar. It is one of the most important celebrations of the year among East and Southeast Asian cultures (including Chinese, Vietnamese, and Korean Communities). This celebration lasts 16 days and this year is the year of the Tiger! It is said that those born this year tend to have great interpersonal relationships and be very family oriented.

## *Black History Month - February 1<sup>st</sup> | March 1<sup>st</sup>*

Every year starting February 1st we celebrate and honor Black History Month. This is a time the U.S honors the contributions and sacrifices of African Americans who helped shape the nation. During this month we also celebrate the rich cultural heritage and

the second week of the month coincides with the birthdays of both Abraham Lincoln (being influential in the emancipation of slaves) and Frederick Douglass (former slave and

gacy of not only Black scholars and medical practitioners in Western medicine, but also other ways of knowing (e.g., birth workers, doulas,

## *Dr. YagjX Yb hgV8 Umil February 21<sup>st</sup>*

Originally a day that was to celebrate only George Washington and Abraham Lincoln, it that