

Summer 2021

# FSS Essentials



## FSS VISION:

*Outstanding Support  
and Service: Making a  
Difference at Texas State*

Eric Algoe  
*Vice President*

Cristine Black  
*Assistant VP, Budgeting, Financial  
Planning & Analysis*

Darryl Borgonah  
*Associate VP, Financial Services*

Laurie Clouse  
*Director, University Police Department*

Carole Clerie  
*Assistant VP, Human Resources*

Wendy McCoy  
*Director, EHSRM*

Nancy Nusbaum  
*Associate VP, FSS Planning*

John Root  
*Director, Auxiliary Services*

Tom Shewan  
*Associate VP, Facilities*

Valarie Van Vlack  
*Treasurer*

## LETTER FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT



Texas State University students, faculty and staff have done amazing things over the past year while weathering one of the most impactful pandemics in history. This has been a trying year, to say the least, with a global health crisis, a national social justice crisis, and a once-in-a-century winter storm in Texas. We have also experienced a financial crisis as many families were significantly impacted by the pandemic.

One of the primary ways that we can honor and recognize the great work all of you have done over the past year is getting our students back to Texas State, and returning the university to the growth that has been such an important part of our history. In order to get our students back, we must reduce the financial hurdles they face as the world comes back to normal. The federal government provided a variety of stimulus dollars to help college students and higher education institutions as part of the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act or, CARES Act. The CARES Act is one important

# DATES TO REMEMBER

## ERS Summer Insurance Enrollment

June 21 – July 23

## Texas State Summer Insurance Enrollment

June 21 – July 3

## July

- Jul 4
  - Independence Day
- Jul 5
  - First Day of Summer II
- Jul 17
  - World Emoji Day
- Jul 25
  - Parents' Day

Jul 30

- World Friendship Day
- World Day Against Trafficking in Persons

## August

Aug 6

- Texas State Commencement

Aug 7

- Purple Heart Day

Aug 9

- World's Indigenous Peoples Day

Aug 12

- International Youth Day

Aug 16

- National Tell A Joke Day

Aug 19

- World Humanitarian Day

Aug 21

- Senior Citizens Day

Aug 23

- First Day of Fall Term

Aug 26

- Women's Equality Day

## September

Sep 6

- Labor Day

Sep 7

- Rosh Hashana

Sep 8

- International Literacy Day

Sep 10

- World Suicide Prevention Day

Sep 11

- Patriot Day

Sep 12

- National Grandparents Day

Sep 16

- Yom Kippur

Sep 17

- Constitution Day and Citizenship Day

Sep 18

- Air Force Birthday

Sep 19

- Wife Appreciation Day

Sep 21

- International Day of Peace

Sep 23

- World Maritime Day

Sep 29

- World Heart Day

# AND THE WINNERS ARE...

## FSS Quarterly Team – April 2020

*UPD Dispatch Team* - **Carrie Solitto, Jennifer Paterson, Jimmy Hicks, Eric Marsh, Chelsey Bogner, Adrianna Lindsey, and Monica Suarez.**

The UPD Dispatch Team improvised and didn't miss a beat in responding to emergency calls resulting from the weather emergency. The team shared personal cell phone numbers to keep the lines of communication open with resident assistants, students, police officers, and even parents when power and phone service was down. Because of their commitment and persistence, UPD delivered quick and reliable emergency services during the weather event. Several team members stayed overnight on campus to ensure they would be available for their next shift.

*Utilities Team* - **James Norton, Xavier Lopez, Joey Kristoff, Samuel Brakhage, Chris Olivares, Roy Eastwood, Hector Vasquez, Kurtis Crocket, Michael Kocay, Greg (Scott) Hode, Daniel Moran, Neil Bascos, Chris Castro, David Flores, Michael Kubin, Enrique Llanes, Robert Miller, Hilario Villarreal, Gilbert Morales, and Brian Rabel.**

The Utilities Team stood up backup generators to supply electricity to key buildings and the Jackson water well which provides water to most of campus. The team maintained system water pressure levels above minimum limits by manually operating the transfer pumps at the well house and refueled the generators around the clock by making trips to the Transdev Shuttle Maintenance facility. The multiple blackouts prevented the boilers at Central Plant from refiring until power was fully restored. However, the boilers at West Plant were operational when intermittent power was restored and the team focused its attention these units. Once the main boilers came back on, the team had to switch the load to feed steam to Texas State buildings, including residence halls. Members of this team worked long hours, stayed overnight on campus, and continuously turned the university power back on manually.

## VPFSS BROWN BAG

Have an idea... a question... a concern? Eric Algoe will host virtual monthly Brown Bag sessions on the following dates:

**Wednesday, July 7**  
**University Police Department**

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, Aug 4**  
**Budgeting, Financial Planning & Analysis**

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Wednesday, Sept 8**  
**Facilities Management & Custodial Services**

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

# WELLNESS WISDOM

## Wellness in the Workplace

By: Katelin Bailey, Meagan Gardner, and Emily Lowry; WellCats Instructors and DPT Graduate Students

After over a year of quarantining, adjusting to working from home, and facing the fears that come with a global pandemic, our workplaces are finally opening up again. This change is exciting, but may come with some discomfort. We must keep wellness in mind in order to ensure a healthy return to the workplace. WELCOA recognizes seven areas of our lives that relate to our overall wellness. Below is a list of these domains and some tips on how to optimize each area of your life in the workplace.

### Health:

This dimension focuses on the feeling of physical and mental strength and energy. During the pandemic many people have developed positive habits such as exercising at home, preparing home-made meals, and getting proper sleep. As the world returns to work, try to prioritize these habits and continue integrating them into your new routine. If you desire to develop a new healthy habit, start small and celebrate each victory along the way.

### Meaning:

Having a purpose-driven life is important for your overall wellness. As you return to the workplace, think about why you chose your particular career and reflect on the impact you can make each day. As you interact with your peers more and more, take opportunities to connect and find meaning in your relationships with them.

### Safety:

Learning to engage with others safely under the new parameters and boundaries of COVID-19 will take time. In order to maintain safety for ourselves and others, we must be self-aware and attentive to the environment around us. Respect others' opinions and comply with the guidelines of the CDC and your workplace.

### Connection:

It's safe to say that many of us have been deprived of human connection over the past year. As we are now able to interact with others again, remember to respect

others' boundaries and set your own. Communicate your needs and concerns and enjoy the personal time that you are able to spend with those you care about.

### Achievement:

In order to achieve goals in the workplace, it is important that you have the support and resources you need. In these changing times, employers are more focused on humanitarian concerns than ever. Use your voice to offer suggestions and have open communication with your employer and staff. This will help build a safe and supportive workplace where everyone can thrive.

### Growth:

Reflect on the lessons you have learned over the past year. How can you use these lessons and newfound values to improve your workplace? Use these new opportunities to grow personally and to help your peers expand on their strengths as well. Changes are bound to happen in these transitions, and it's up to you to make those changes positive!

### Resiliency

In difficult times, our resiliency will give us the capacity to keep going and facing our fears. It has been shown that mindfulness practices can enhance resiliency by building self-discipline, awareness, and positivity. Develop a mindfulness and meditation practice and notice how it affects your daily mood and outlook on life. This practice could be as simple as taking 5 minutes each day to sit in silence and reflect.

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## BOBCAT CHATTER

What was the last show that you binged watch?

**Tia Carr**  
Administrative Assistant II  
VPFSS

"Prodigal Son"



# MEET OUR NEW TEAM



*Gary Anderson*  
Parking Services Officer  
Transportation Services

One of the Newest and Oldest (73 yo), Gary has a beautiful wife, 4 children, 4 grandchildren, and 1 great-grandchild. Gary spent 17 years in the military (USAF) and flew combat missions in Vietnam.

He was the General Manager of the Umpire Development Program for MLB, worked as Project Manager for

Kraft Foods, and joined Texas State from Austin-Bergstrom International Airport as Chief of Landside Operations.



*Rob Brenckle*  
Sr. Environmental Health and Safety Specialist  
Environmental Health, Safety & Risk Management

Originally from Pennsylvania, Rob is a 21-year Military Veteran. He has been on 5 of the 7 continents and 3 of the 5 oceans and plan on visiting all within his lifetime. His interests include the stock market, woodworking, dog training, hiking, hanging out with his family. His wife, two sons, daughter and four granddaughters love visiting

new places and experiencing new things.



*Shuntia Carr*  
Administrative Assistant II  
VP Finance & Support Services

Originally born in San Marcos, Shauntia Carr has a B.S. Business Management degree from Southern University A&M. As a proud enthusiast of all sports, including those taboo, Volleyball takes top spot! A veteran to recreation, select, and collegiate volleyball, she now strives to take advantage of coaching positions to

mentor players and their volleyball IQ.

Her favorite fictional characters include Betty Boop, Wanda Maximoff, Captain Jack Sparrow, and Harley Quinn. Shauntia's Fun Facts include being eldest of four, of Irish descent, and (my favorite) having a Preauricular Pit!

*Carole Clerie*  
AVP Human Resources  
Office of Human Resources

A native of Evanston, Illinois and a graduate of Florida Atlantic and Lynn Universities, Clerie has held various roles in HR, starting her career in a technical support role. She served as CHRO for two institutions within the University System of Georgia for four years, and prior to that, served as the Director of Employee Services at Lynn University for ten years.

*Ross Garcia*  
Plant Mechanic II  
Utilities Operations

Ross Garcia grew up in Garland, Texas, graduating from Alice High School and his Associates Degree in Diesel Mechanics at Bee County College. When the oil field industry in Texas fell into depression, Ross enlisted the U. S. Navy.

During his 27-year Navy career he conducted underwater repairs and harbor clearance dive missions in the Mediterranean Sea, Persian Gulf and other oceans around the world. Ross always enjoys bragging about the men and women in uniform who he served with during his Navy Career. You can read all about Master Chief Master Diver Ross Garcia's Navy Dive leadership experiences in his self-published book, "View Through a Faceplate Window, Adventures of a Navy Master Diver". Ross now enjoys working with his new crew in Utilities at Texas State University.



*Norm Thormählen*  
Plant Operator I  
Utility Operations

Norm has previously taught chemistry, physics, earth and space teacher in the public schools. His interests are astrophotography, camping, motorcycling, random Viking pillaging raids, and gardening.

*James Vavra*  
Steam & WW Ops Mechanic I  
Utility Operations

James Vavra comes to the Utilities Operations department as a Plant Mechanic I, after working the 'the mines' in Marble Falls. Has a wife, Amelia and two children Ellie and Anthony. He plays tournament paintball and loves to skateboard in his free time.

*Samantha Williams*  
HR Assistant  
Office of Human Resources

Sam is originally from Grapevine, TX but is no stranger to the San Marcos area. As a Texas State Alumni, she could not be more pleased to call San Marcos home! In her free time, she loves to explore all the local spots in town, whether it's a nice outdoor hike at Purgatory Creek, enjoying local eats, or attending the farmer's market on a Saturday morning. You will likely find her enjoying a cup of coffee with a book by her side as well. Sam feels very lucky to be a part of the Texas State community now as a member of Staff, and the greater San Marcos area.



# Welcome!



# STAFF SCOOP

FSS Employee News



Brendan Michael Kirkpatrick, son of **Shari K. Ferguson** (Ingress Management Services), is graduating Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University (ERAU) on May 10th, 2021, Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Aeronautical Science, with an Applied Meteorology minor, with a concentration in Commercial Pilot, cum laude.



This past spring, **Alex Reyna** (HR Assistant, Office of Human Resources) graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Communication Design. She plans to eventually pursue a Master's degree in HR Management but is excited to take a break and catch up on all of her missed sleep.



Max Addison Silas Palmer, son of Officer **Tad Palmer** and his wife Penny, graduated from Canyon High School. Max's highlights include LaCrosse State Runner up in 2019, Bi-District Varsity Football Champions in 2020/2021, and in Ag Mechanics his Senior team won 1st Place and Grand Champion for Comal County 2021. Max also received Athletic Academic Honors for CLHS 2020-21. Max is the last of 5 kids, and has officially enlisted (6/2/2021) in the United

States Navy. He will leave for his initial training in November, followed by training to be an Aircraft Mechanic in Pensacola, Florida before his assignment to a Naval Squadron.

UPD Dispatcher **Eric Marsh** graduated from TXST with a BS in Criminal Justice with a minor in Forensic Psychology, Summa Cum Laude

UPD Guard **Justin Shimek** graduated from TXST with a BS in Criminal Justice with a minor in Business

Rebecca Hughey, daughter of UPD Sgt. **Roscoe Hughey**, graduated from TXST with a BS in Technology

Noah Rossell, son of FSS Public Information Officer **Deyanira Romo Rossell**, graduated from Texas A&M University with a BS in Technology, Cum Laude

Ruby Ryan Becker, 7lbs, 15oz - was born 6-6-2021 to Brock and Madison Becker. Ruby Ryan is the first grandchild of **William (Billy) Becker** - Assistant Director, Procurement & Strategic Sourcing.

**Veronica Martinez Maldonado**, (Student Business Services ) is expecting a baby girl on October 9, 2021. Mom, Dad, and big sister Jayla are very excited!

Mason Castillo, son of **Zindi Castillo** (Student Business Services), has graduated from San Marcos High School on May 28th. He will be attending Texas State this Fall and plans to major in Business Management. Mom, Dad, and little sister are very proud!

# 2020 TEXAS STATE SERVICE AWARDS

## 10 Years

**Andrea Aldape**, *ID Services*

**Bruce Banks**, *Custodial Operations*

**Jessica Casas**, *Transportation Services*

**Tammy Coyle**, *Human Resources*

**Bill Donovan**, *Facilities Planning, Design, and Construction*

**David Flores**, *Utility Operations*

**Alan Harrell**, *Grounds and Waste Management*

**Heather Houston**, *Human Resources*

**Martin Mercado, Jr.**, *Custodial Operations*

**Jennifer Mireles**, *Materials Management and Logistics*

**Linda Rea**, *Transportation Services*

**Joel Trevino, Jr.**, *Facilities Management*

**Isabel Valdez**, *Accounting Office*

**Hector Vasquez**, *Utility Operations*

**Phillip Vasquez**, *Custodial Operations*

**Hilario Villarreal**, *Utility Operations*

## 15 Years

**Cortney Akers**, *Printing Services*

**Jodie Mangold**, *Student Business Services and Bursars*

**Lloyd McKinney**, *University Police Department*

**Ramon Rivera**, *Facilities Operations*

**Kevin Ryan**, *Utility Operations*

**Lee Torres**, *Facilities Operations*

**Rose Trevino**, *Human Resources*

## 20 Years

**Don Compton**, *Facilities Planning, Design, and Construction*

**Jose Duran**, *Materials Management and Logistics*

**Roy Eastwood**, *Utility Operations*

**Jeff Elam**, *Facilities Management*

**Sally Harris**, *Custodial Operations*

**Arnold Hernandez**, *Grounds and Waste Management*

**Xavier Lopez**, *Utility Operations*

**Roxanne Munos**, *Student Business Services and Bursars*

**Karen Munoz**, *Facilities*

**Rosalina Ortiz**, *Custodial Operations*

**John Albert Perez**, *Facilities Operations*

**John Root**, *Auxiliary Services*

## 25 Years

**Marcus Bryant**, *Treasurer*

**Raymond Delgado**, *Facilities Operations*

**Steve Volk**, *Utility Operations*

## 30 Years

**Johnny Gonzales**, *Materials Management and Logistics*

**Mario Molina**, *Utility Operations*

**Diana Vallejo**, *Office of Payroll and Tax Compliance*

## 35 Years

**Frank Gonzalez**, *Materials Management and Logistics*

**Cruz Jaimes, Jr.**, *Materials Management and Logistics*

**Steve Prentice**, *Transportation Services*

**Michael Shearer**, *Facilities Operations*



# 2021 TEXAS STATE SERVICE AWARDS

## 10 Years

**Iliana Camarillo**, *Custodial Operations*

**Blanca Castillo**, *Custodial Operations*

**John Charlet**, *Auxiliary Services*

**James Frye**, *Environmental Healthy, Safety & Risk Management*

**Jon Gaddis**, *Facilities Management*

**Anna Hale**, *Office of Payroll and Tax Compliance*

**Edith Harvey**, *Facilities Management*

**Elizabeth Hewett**, *Treasurer*

**Larry Miller**, *Facilities Planning, Design, and Construction*

**Rocio Ortiz De La Rosa**, *I D Services*

**Robert Roten**, *Custodial Operations*

**Vanessa Salazar**, *Human Resources*

**Miguel Sandoval, Jr.**, *Custodial Operations*

**Janet Weitz**, *Utility Operations*

## 15 Years

**Maria Alvarez**, *Custodial Operations*

**Cynthia Balboa**, *Procurement and Strategic Sourcing*

**Neil Bascos**, *Utility Operations*

**Frederick Boasi**, *Custodial Operations*

**Jason Boyd**, *Facilities Planning, Design, and Construction*

**Barbara Delgado**, *Facilities Operations*

**Dannette Elliot**, *University Police Department*

**Margarita Flores**, *Custodial Operations*

**Adam Gonzales**, *Facilities Management*

**Mike Machado**, *Facilities Operations*

**Michael Maldonado**, *Facilities Management*

**Elsie Romano**, *Environmental Healthy, Safety & Risk Management*

**Monica Saenz**, *Office of Payroll and Tax Compliance*

**Richard Selvera**, *Materials Management and Logistics*

**Don Steen, Jr.**, *Transportation Services*

**Staci Wade**, *Student Business Services and Bursars*

**Lauren Williams**, *Bookstore*

## 20 Years

**Alma Apodaca**, *Transportation Services*

**Delfia Chavarria**, *Custodial Operations*

**Robert DeLeon**, *Grounds and Waste Management*

**Carolyn Holesovsky**, *FSS Planning*

**Becky Johnson-Cronk**, *Grounds and Waste Management*

**Michael Kubin**, *Utility Operations*

**Raymond Martinez**, *Grounds and Waste Management*

**Gilbert Morales**, *Facilities Operations*

**Melinda Olivo**, *Associate Vice President for Financial Services*

**Juan Romero**, *Utility Operations*

**Robert Stafford**, *Facilities Planning, Design, and Construction*

## 25 Years

**Joaquin Martinez, Jr.**, *Grounds and Waste Management*

**Carlos Pardo, Jr.**, *Grounds and Waste Management*

**Enrique Rodriguez**, *Grounds and Waste Management*

**Steve Williams**, *Custodial Operations*

## 30 Years

**Miguel Hernandez**, *Facilities Operations*

## 35 Years

**Adrian Castilleja**, *Grounds and Waste Management*

**Lisa Gonzales**, *I D Services*

**Art Pineda**, *Materials Management and Logistics*

# LETTER FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

...Continued from page 1

tool in helping students. This bill allotted \$14 billion to the Office of Postsecondary Education as the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund, or HEERF.

HEERF has since received two more rounds of additional funding, the latest of which is known as the American Rescue Plan (ARP) which was signed into law on March 11, 2021, providing \$39.6 billion in support to institutions of higher education to serve students and ensure learning continues during the COVID-19 pandemic. The total emergency funds available to institutions and their students is \$76.2 billion.

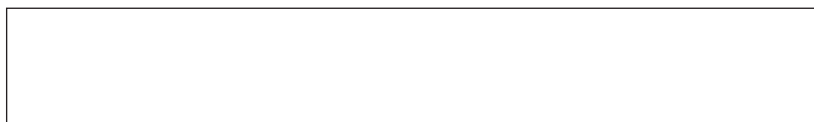
Texas State's share of these funds stands at just over \$180 million. These funds are making a huge difference for our students. As a university, we took several different approaches to provide as much financial relief as possible in response to our students' financial difficulties. We streamlined funding disbursement, so that

students whose estimated family contribution was \$0 did not need to apply; funds were sent directly to the students' accounts. To date, we have disbursed a total of \$43,132,496 in relief to 34,591 students through both federal and local funds.

Students who enroll at Texas State next fall and spring semesters can continue to receive emergency grant funds thanks to HEERF. In fact, we are planning to provide an additional \$52,6295,515 through HEERF this coming academic year. However, this emergency funding is only part of our ongoing work to keep a Texas State education affordable to as many students as possible. We are also tripling the amount of merit-based financial aid being offered to next fall's freshman class, going from \$5 million to \$15 million, and we have raised the threshold for what students can owe the university and still enroll in classes by 1,500%. This type of bold action is sized to respond to the size of the disruption caused by

the pandemic. We are committed to honoring our employees by doing whatever it takes to get our students back on our campuses.

These financial aid programs underscore our commitment to helping students continue to pursue their college education through challenging times. As we emerge from the worst of the pandemic's impacts over the past year, I am looking forward to welcoming our students back on to our campuses this fall. We may not exactly know what the next academic year holds, but I am eager to tackle whatever comes our way, and I am confident we will live up to any challenges presented. My confidence is rooted in the good work that all of you, our staff, have done over the past year. Your amazing work, resiliency, and flexibility have been an inspiration and remind me on a regular basis how great it is to be a Bobcat.



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TEXAS  STATE  
UNIVERSITY

*The rising STAR of Texas*

***"Nothing in life is to be feared, it is only to be understood. Now is the time to understand more, so that we may fear less."***

– Marie Curie

The Finance and Support Services Division in support of the University's mission is dedicated to providing outstanding customer service and a challenging and satisfying work environment while ensuring the efficient and effective use of financial, human, and physical resources.

#### Committee

Cortney Akers (CS16@txstate.edu)  
Alma Apodaca (AV12@txstate.edu)  
Sherry Caddell (SC41@txstate.edu)  
Stephanie Daniels (SD1344@txstate.edu)  
Anna Edmonds (AG1461@txstate.edu)  
Casey Lehmann (CRS357@txstate.edu)

Karen Munoz (KM26@txstate.edu)  
Carolina Ratliff (CM15214@txstate.edu)  
Elsie Romano (ER20@txstate.edu)  
Crystal Schaffer (CMS263@txstate.edu)  
Jeremy Thomas (JCT58@txstate.edu)