



California State
University

CHANNEL
ISLANDS

FIRST EDITION

OPC NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 12, 2011

WE KEEP CI RUNNING ...



MAIN STORIES

DAVE'S
CORNER

2

CAMPUS
BEAUTY

2

NEW KEY
BOXES

3

MARINA &
OFELIA

4

ENERGY

5

RECYCLE

5

ENTRANCE RD.

6



Photos From Left to Right

- Renovations of El Dorado Hall over the summer
- MVS Decision Center
- Completion of Santa Barbara Street
- North Hall Faculty Offices being built
- Remodeled Bell Tower Terrace
- Paintshop working on Housing Units

DAVE CHAKRABORTY'S CORNER

Welcome to the first edition of the OPC Newsletter!

We are 100+ strong, divided into five units. We do a large number of tasks and projects throughout our campus. Unfortunately, we often do not know what other units or shops are doing. Thus, in the newsletter, we will share important initiatives, news, and tidbits in order to keep each of us informed about various

activities within OPC. We are planning an edition once every two months.

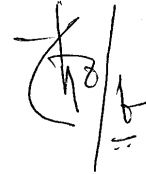
We will also get to know some of our colleagues better. We will be introducing to you familiar faces of OPC with a new side of them that you may not have known before. To start off the first edition, we are introducing Marina and Ofelia Guzman, two very dedicated custodians. They

have contributed greatly to our custodial services, and also to the overall persona of OPC.

I would like to thank the OPC Newsletter Crew for making the newsletter a reality. Please let us know whether you like it or not by letting us know your feedbacks and comments.

When you wake up in the morning, I hope you feel, as I

do, that OPC is a great place to work. I hope that you look forward to coming to work. If you don't, let's talk. You know how to find me.



THE BEAUTY OF OUR CAMPUS

The Grounds Team is engaged in maintaining our grounds and landscaping. The Team has completed various landscape installations around campus. Following CI sustainability guidelines, California native plants and drought tolerant plants are used on all projects. The team uses reclaimed irrigation water for over 95% of the campus, making our campus one of the most sustainable operations.

The Grounds Team's showiest project is the Rose Garden at the Broome Library end of the Central Mall. Roses are native to California, but most landscape Roses are cultivars due to widespread cross-breeding over time. The selection used here is a Knockout Rose breed, which is disease and pest resistant. Surrounding the Roses are Sea Lavenders, also known as Statice, which is native to California and has a magnificent purple bloom. Also used are Catalina Island Snapdragon Bushes.

Another recently completed project was

upgrading the Police & Parking courtyard in preparation for the annual Chiefs Convention. Native California Sage, Sagebrush, Wild Lilacs, Yarrow, Verbena and Manzanitas were used. The faster growing plants have filled the planters and helped to suppress weeds as the slower maturing plants fill out.



Flowers at Police & Parking

The Arroyo parking lot also received an upgrade. For pedestrian safety, the parking lot and the walkways have to be separated. Catalina Island Snapdragon Bushes and Manzanitas were exclusively used. The Snapdragon bushes are the perfect size to fill the space at maturity,

and they flower red year-round. The Manzanitas will eventually reach ten to twelve feet in height and will have a very statuesque form accentuated by smooth red wood.

The Grounds Team also installed new landscape at Lot A-7 in front of Malibu Hall. The trees used, Chitalpas, are a hybrid of two different California native trees, the Desert Willow and the Mountain Catalpa. This mix creates a tree that is drought tolerant, as well as cold and fog tolerant, for use in coastal areas. The Chitalpa is a perfect parking lot tree as the beautiful pink flowers dry on the tree before they fall off, which makes it less messy on the cars and pavement. This area also gets a tremendous amount of wind. Therefore Foxtail Fountain Grass was used between the trees as well as on the corner. The ethereal flower heads sway with the winds to create a dramatic effect. Catalina Island Snapdragon Bushes were also used in the corner bed, which keeps design continuity

between the various planters.

The Grounds Team is planning several new projects over the next few months: landscaping of the A-4 lot by Eldorado Hall, along Santa Barbara Street and University Avenue, Aliso Hall end of the Central Mall, and a Sitting Garden behind Yuba Hall.

The team's goal is to create sustainable landscaping that is aesthetically pleasing. They ensure that the projects are implemented with little inconvenience to the campus community. The team gets tremendous pleasure when they hear the campus community and the visitors say how beautiful the campus looks.



Top left: Fountain Grass at Malibu Hall

Top right: Native plants at Broome Library

Bottom left: Flowers along University Dr.

THE KEY TO A BETTER SYSTEM



Aaron Lasley next to a newly installed key box.

Access to buildings is now made easier with a new key management system that was installed in June. As described by Aaron Lasley from the Lock Shop, campus police often get calls to open buildings, rooms, or offices.

To eliminate this process and make the campus more efficient, the new key management system will be able to electronically track keys that are checked out by anyone with permission to access those keys. The boxes are accessed using the most current Dolphin One Card. The keys are placed in electronic key boxes in each occupied building. The Lock Shop will be able to electronically identify who opens the box and at what time. The new management software can also designate how long the keys can be checked out, and will send a notification to alert the users and appropriate administrators if the keys are overdue. Certain sets of keys are pre-designated for certain people, so no one will be able to take just any key.

Only Campus Police currently has access to these boxes. OPC is expecting to join the new key management system by October, and individual departments by the beginning of Spring semester 2012.

THE ADVENTURES OF MARINA AND OFELIA

Shelby Maloney

Maria Sanchez

Marina Guzman, a veteran in the custodial arts at California State University Channel Islands (CI), sat timidly anticipating her interview in the student assistant office in the Operation, Planning and Construction Department at CI. Though Marina spoke English very well, her shy, soft-spoken demeanor soon faded when she realized that one of her interviewers spoke Spanish and was able to translate for yours-truly.

Marina is no stranger to a hard day's work and you could say the same about her sister Ofelia Alvarez, 10 years her senior, who works at Marina's side daily and has for most of their lives. Marina and Ofelia have been members of the work force since they were small children. When she was 11 years old Marina took a job with her sister in the melon fields of Santa Paula. She recalled that they routinely worked from 6am to 6pm and were made to take a mere 15 minute break. They got paid by the box, Marina explained, so breaks needed to be mandatory, otherwise no one would take them.

"Marina is no stranger to a hard day's work"

Marina told us that they are frequently reminded of their childhood while working together at CI. She recalled a time when they were trying to scare a bird out of one of the halls in the Belltower, one of the many services that Marina and Ofelia provide on the CI campus. One of the sisters was on one side of the hall and the other on the other side both trying to frighten the bird to the center of the hallway where the exit door resided. The sisters began to tease each other as they got closer to one another and the frantically swooping bird, saying things like "that bird thinks you want to get his nest." The ordeal reminded Marina and her sister of times they shared



Marina Guzman & Ofelia Alvarez

many years ago on the ranch they grew up on in Mexico where children would run around with sling shots chasing after squirrels, birds, and rabbits.

Now Marina and Ofelia have children of their own, but still continue to share their childhood memories. When asked if her sister, being the older sibling, ever got bossy on the job, she confessed with a massive grin, "always." Marina gushed that she loves working with her sister at CI saying that it has always been easy to communicate with her which helps to get the job done as a team.

USING ENERGY EFFICIENTLY

OPC's energy conservation program has had a big impact on campus. We have managed to reduce energy consumption by more than 20 percent in the last two years. Over the last two years, the Engineer Shop led the energy conservation efforts. They won the S-TEEM Award in 2010 for Sustainability for their excellent work. Recently, the Electric Shop has launched a lighting upgrade program. One of the projects includes upgrading approximately fifty street lights using 250W metal halide bulbs by 55W energy-efficient induction lights. This project will save street light energy consumption by 80 percent. Exterior wall lights will also be upgraded. An estimated 200 light fixtures will receive 42

watt compact fluorescent light bulbs. Replacing the current high energy-consuming bulbs on the exterior lighting will save much as 60-70% in energy usage.

To monitor campus wide electricity usage, OPC has installed Shark Meters on every building. These meters report electricity consumption in real-time. OPC uses these meters to monitor energy usage in individual buildings and to identify buildings or areas where energy conservation programs are needed. OPC has launched a Electricity Dashboard at the start of the semester to make the data available to the campus community. The dashboard can be viewed in



The Electric Shop Crew Members

the Student Union, and at www.wattcafe.com/csuci/dashboard. We hope that the dashboard help increase awareness on energy usage and how we can further improve our energy efficiency. Help conserve energy by turning lights and other electronic devices off.

NEW AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TARGETS RECYCLING



Recycling is an essential component of being sustainable at CI. Although there are recycling bins placed throughout campus, the concept of recycling itself could be confusing when there are limited types of materials that can go into those bins. To reduce this confusion, OPC has launched a Recycling Awareness Campaign. As part of this campaign, OPC has posted signage throughout campus to show what types of materials can go into the recycling bins. The simple action of throwing our waste into the right bins makes a huge difference in reducing our waste stream and preventing usable materials from being dumped into the landfill. Having informative signage is only half the battle in tackling the

issue of recycling. The other half requires cooperation among everyone on campus to simply throw away their waste in the right containers. The current recycling rate on campus is only about 50 percent. The Awareness Campaign hopes to increase this rate in order to ensure that all recyclable materials will be recycled.

Within OPC, a trial program was recently launched in Arroyo Hall to recycle bottles and cans in-house. This program aims to primarily boost awareness about recycling by giving everyone an incentive to recycle. The collected bottles and cans will produce extra revenue that will be directed towards the maintenance shops and OPC overall.

THE PATH TO THE NEW ENTRANCE ROAD

Back in November of 2010 construction started on what will soon be the new entrance road at CI. Although construction started a year ago, planning and design on the entrance road started in 2007. In March of 2007 Alan Paul was assigned to help design the new entrance road. Alan and the design team came across a few road blocks along the way. The Chancellor's Office wanted an Environmental Impact Report done before construction started, which took about a year to complete. The report found an endangered bird that called this site home. There was also an archaeology survey done on this site. Some Cherokee artifacts were found, such as ar-

rowheads and seashells. Finally construction started in late 2010. Project manager Steve Calvano and Inspector Dan Gerrard have been working tirelessly on the entrance road since then. It is due to be done on May 19, 2012, but they are currently ahead of schedule by two months. The road will stretch from Lewis Road to Santa Barbara Street. There is a CSUCI entry sign in the works, and there will be an information kiosk as you drive in. There are plans to build a few parking lots next to the entrance road in the future, so a pedestrian bridge was built to accommodate students walking to and from the parking lots. The faces behind the

entrance road aren't merely an architect, project manager, inspector, and construction workers. Alan is an avid sailor who has a Master in Psychology, so if you ever need to talk to someone, Alan is your man. Steve's daughter is an actress that has starred in NCIS and a new movie coming out called *Jay Edgar*. Dan has two children and has been married for 25 years. When asked, "Do you like working here?" Each of them grinned and gave an enthusiastic "YES!" Dave's motto speaks true to these men. They love working for OPC.



Dan Gerrard, Alan Paul, Steve Calvano

HR Happenings

CURRENT OPC PROJECTS

Street Lighting Upgrade
Exterior Wall Pack Lighting Upgrade
Napa Hall Lighting Upgrade
Fire Alarm Network Tie-In Campus Wide
Sage Hall Security System Installation
Arroyo Hall Remodel
Chaparral Hall Lighting Upgrade
Warehouse Lighting Upgrade
A/V Upgrade at Napa and Aliso Hall
Implementation of New Computerized Lighting Controls
Lot A4 Irrigation and Landscape Install
South Quad Irrigation Install
Santa Barbara Street Irrigation and Landscape
Landscape Refresh Projects:

- LA Avenue , West Side
- Aliso Plaza
- Front of Student Union
- North of Sage Hall
- Back Slope of Yuba Hall

NEW EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION PROGRAM

OPC has started a new employee recognition program called Recognizing Employees Appreciation and Loyalty. OPC employees that go above and beyond their normal job duties can be nominated by peers to receive a REAL award. Nominations can be submitted to Terri Cilley or Linda Covarrubias by email, phone or paper. The submissions will then be considered by the REAL committee and the winners of the REAL award will receive an "Employee of the Month" certificate, a t-shirt or hat and be featured in the OPC newsletter as well as the video display in Arroyo Hall. Please email, call or write your nominations to Terrie Cilley: theresa.cilley@csuci.edu, 437-3245 or Linda Covarrubias: Linda.Covarrubias@csuci.edu, 437-8960 or a REAL Team member.

New Employees:

- Carolyn Shamowski
- Alfredo Dadacay

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Births

- ◆ David Carlson and his wife welcomed their new baby girl, Rorie Kate into the world on September 10th, 2011. Congratulations, David!

Engagements

- ◆ Loren Fleming, wedding set for June 24, 2012
- ◆ Aaron Lasley, wedding set for May 12, 2012

Special Congratulations

- ◆ Jose Nieto's son wins reality TV cooking show!

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

10.02 Shelby Maloney
10.03 Paul Lopez
10.04 Jerry Fernandez
10.06 Aaron Lasley
10.07 John Gormley
10.08 Linda Covarrubias
10.10 Merlin Snider
10.10 John Whipp
10.12 Brittany Brakka
10.12 Steve Calvano
10.15 Karl Richert
10.19 Sharon Sheravic
10.21 Scott Jacobsen
10.25 Michael Carlin
10.29 Jose Zaragoza
11.02 Loren Fleming
11.04 Carolyn Shamowski
11.08 Shawn Barilone
11.10 Wes Cooper
11.17 Jeff Donlin
11.17 Roberto Perez
11.19 Rosalina Sarreal
11.30 Contreras Stephen
11.30 John Naylor

OPC News

OPC FUN CHALLENGE

These babies are now all grown up and are working for OPC. Can you guess who these people are? Email Briana Linares your answer and you could win a prize for the correct guess! briana.linares122@csuci.edu



DID YOU KNOW?

CI ranks 4th in the Buildings & Operations category amongst all University campuses nationwide participating in the STARS (Sustainability Tracking Assessment & Rating System) Sustainability Performance measure.

CI is ranked in "Silver" class in the overall program. The program is a self-reporting framework for universities to measure their sustainability performance. STARS gives credits to various categories and based on those credits, the school is given a sustainability ranking. The categories not only include building performance and operations, but also academic standards such as including sustainability as a part of class courses. CI has been able to score high in its performance with efforts such as our energy efficiency projects, increased efforts in recycling, and many other sustainability initiatives.

The OPC Newsletter is brought to you by the Student Assistants of OPC. We are honored to have the pleasure of bringing you the personalities and qualities of OPC through connecting you with your fellow OPC colleagues. Thank you for your efforts in making OPC and CSU Channel Islands a great place to work for!

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS:
BRIANA.LINARES122@CSUCI.EDU



**OPERATIONS,
PLANNING &
CONSTRUCTION**

C H A N N E L
I S L A N D S