USF is closely monitoring the coronavirus outbreak.

For updates from USF please visit usf.edu/coronavirus

For the most recently updated and accurate information visit cdc.gov/coronavirus

Visit the links above to find up-to-date information on the COVID-19 outbreak.

Employee Appreciation Event

Even the best employees cannot perform well when they are not motivated to do so, and feeling appreciated plays a big role in one’s motivation. This is why employee recognition and appreciation is an important part of the culture of the Office of Administrative Services.

As a way to show appreciation for all of the hard work OAS employees do, employee appreciation events, planned by the Recognition and Awards Pillar, were held on March 10. Employees in every department of OAS got to take a relaxing break from work with their coworkers.

Three sessions of the appreciation event were held, one for each shift. Attendees had the opportunity to kick back, take a break from their usual work day, and enjoy a fun atmosphere. The two hour long events provided delicious food, snacks, desserts and drinks. The event space was filled with festive green and gold decorations and there was a photo backdrop where employees were invited to take photos with each other. Employees were also encouraged to mingle and dance as upbeat music was played.

The event was a huge success, a big thanks to the Awards and Recognition Pillar for the hard work and planning that went into it. Every day our employees work their hardest to exceed expectations and make this campus a better place, so thank you for all that you do!

Don’t forget to nominate a deserving co-worker for an Excellence Award!
Tips and Tricks for Working from Home

Due to the coronavirus outbreak, many USF employees are working remotely. There may be difficulties making this transition: from technical issues, to working in an unproductive atmosphere. A few simple adjustments to your day can make the transition a lot easier.

Finding a way to productively work remotely is a learning process for everyone. Wayne Espinola, the OAS Web Content Administrator, who has been a remote worker for a total of 8 years, provided some simple tips and tricks that can make the process go more smoothly.

First, create and adhere to a daily schedule, including breaks and time for lunch. It’s okay to occasionally break out of your schedule, but eventually you’ll feel like you’re working at all hours and will quickly burn-out. Another tip to make sure your home and work life don’t bleed together is to create a separate workspace, if possible. When you’re working on the couch or at your table, it may be difficult to focus on either your work or home life effectively.

When creating a separate workspace is not possible, using headphones to drown out distracting sounds can help with focus. If you work better with controlled background noise, you can play some ambient sound. Check out this site that lets you mix your own ambient sounds: asoftmurmur.com.

Finally, staying in front of your computer all day does not help your mind or body. Make sure to take breaks and move around; this can also give you some extra time to think about a project. Exercise is also important for your wellness. Given that you don’t have to commute right now, use that time to refuel your own tank; even if it’s just a 10 minute walk.

For help on the virtual side of things, the USF library has put together a guide to USF-related online resources. The guide, which you can find at bit.ly/USFLibraryGuide, includes information on accessing your voicemail outside of work and signing documents online.

Stay Connected with OAS

When you are isolating physically, staying connected can prevent you from feeling mentally and socially isolated. Along with checking in with coworkers one-on-one, following the OAS social media channels will help you stay in the loop when you’re out of the office.

You can find OAS on Facebook and Youtube at USF Administrative Services. On Twitter we are @USF_AdminSvcs and on Instagram we are @USFAdminServices.

Welcoming New Additions

Donald Mingo, Custodial Worker
Facilities Management

Hidie T Dove, Custodial Worker
Facilities Management

Hanka Bajraktarevic, Manager
Building and Maintenance Operations

Michael Dale, Custodial Worker
Facilities Management

Maria Riusech, Custodial Worker
Facilities Management

Retirements

Edna Williams (33 years)
Custodial Worker
Facilities Management

Anniversaries (cont.)

Parking & Transportation Services

Robert Jordan 17
Orlando Rivera 14
James Orf 13
Eric Tate 6
Daniel Preble 5

Anniversaries

March 2020

Facilities Management

Jesus Holland 21
John Wilson 20
Russ Schmitt 20
Eya Hernandez 19
Steven Bury 18
Yiu Cua 15
Bradley Orr 14
Pathum Narkmongkol 13
Ruben Gutierrez 9
Steven Marshall 9
John Shuey 8
Bernice Pugh 7
Otis Evans 7
Dwight Cuadrao 7
Supat Yarngnork 7
Amber Cross 5
Carl Pritchard 5
William Land 4
Robert Moore 3
Juan Pena 3
Eshwardai Narain 2
Armando Gonzalez Tapia 2
Takeshia Richardson 2
Bryant Santos 2
Ismael Vazquez Franqui 2
Steven Heisler 2
Dominique Williams 1
Keith Williams 1
Tonia Hobaugh-Toca 1
Shannon Kelly 1
Mitzi Hess 1
Christian Bailry 1
Michael Ross 1
Richard Callahan 1
Dameka Robey 1

Let us know any feedback/ideas you have for upcoming newsletters:

aaronnichols@usf.edu