



EMPLOYEE PROFILE

LAWRENCE MENTIS FACILITIES PROJECT MANAGER DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION

Lawrence started working at OAS two years ago as a Grounds Superintendent and is now a Facilities Project Manager within Design and Construction.

His department is responsible for in-house design and engineering services. Lawrence's typical day at work includes managing projects, communicating with customers, and ensuring expectations are being met.

What Lawrence likes the most about OAS is the people he works with. He appreciates his coworkers and is especially thankful for his colleague Chris Martin.

A piece of advice he would give to new employees is to stay focused and make sure their purpose aligns with the department's vision.

Lawrence is Guyanese and moved to Florida two years ago to be closer to his family. His favorite place to eat around USF is Mission Barbecue.

Lawrence is a sports fan and FC Barcelona and the Chicago Bulls are his favorites teams. He loves Messi and was happy to see him win his first World Cup last year.

He also enjoys watching action movies and especially likes John Wick and Marvel's Black Panther.

NEW YEAR CELEBRATION

On January 12, OAS employees celebrated the new year together at events hosted by the Employee Engagement Team.

Teddy bears were collected to donate to the Tampa Rough Riders, who distribute the bears to hospital patients, cancer survivors and their families, centers for abused women and children, community health centers, special needs day care centers, and foster children.

The event included raffles for two tickets to *Chicago the Musical* at the Straz and a folding bicycle. Two sessions of the event were held, one during the day and another for evening shift team members. The raffle entries from each session were combined and the Employee Engagement Team drew the winning tickets the following day, with Andrea Mitchell winning the tickets to *Chicago the Musical* and Rich Piccininni winning the folding bicycle.

Thank you to all who came out and joined the celebration!



From left to right, Employee Engagement Team members Phillip Ippolito, Cristina Loaiza, Nic Wilson, and Chris Young holding some of the teddy bears that were donated to Tampa Rough Riders.



HAPPY RETIREMENT, LORI!

Lori Elliot's retirement and 25 years of service to USF were celebrated on January 26. Lori started at USF working in the Marshall Student Center, where she spent 20 years. She then came to Facilities Management as an assistant to the AVP and has spent the past year as VP Carole Post's executive assistant and office manager.

Lori's history with USF goes beyond her 25 years of employment. Lori's not the only Bull in her family; her mother and sister have also both worked at USF.

Sharon Miller, who started at USF last year and worked under Lori for 6 months, spoke at the party, and stated, "if there's one thing we can all take away from the way Lori carries herself, it's the importance of being authentic and transparent with people." Lori's authenticity led to her building genuine relationships and making an impact on all those she interacted with, made clear by the room full of people who came to celebrate and send her off into retirement.

Lori's favorite quote is from Albert Einstein, "a clever person solves a problem; a wise person avoids it."

We are so thankful for all that Lori did for OAS and the entire University, and the impact she left on many of us. We wish her the best in retirement!



Lori's service to the university was honored with a special excellence award and a personally engraved bull, presented to her by VP Carole Post.

WORK ANNIVERSARIES

BUSINESS CENTER

Julie McCoy 14

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Kevin Holtham 1
Yupaporn Somboonnok 1
Robin Long 2
Wilantae Bryant 3
Lawrence Miller 5
Thomas Bradley 6
Robert Geschardt 8
Michael Ballester 12
Christopher Ilse 13
Adrienne Lynch-Elms 14
Tamara Tidwell 14
Devon Samuels 17
John Greiff 18
Elizabeth Casey 21

PARKING & TRANSPORTATION

Matthew Broderick 1
Nicole Juern 1

WELCOMING NEW ADDITIONS

Daniel Crawford
Vehicle & Equipment Mechanic
Parking and Transportation Services

INDOOR PRACTICE FACILITY GRAND OPENING

Only 15 months after the building's groundbreaking, the Porter Family Indoor Practice Facility has officially opened. University leadership, alumni, trustees, staff, coaches, and athletes gathered on January 10 to celebrate this transformational step in USF's future.

The 88,000 square-foot facility features a 100-yard turf field, observation deck, reception lobby, outdoor plaza, scoreboard, and a video production area. The facility will be open to all student-athletes and provides them a space to practice under cover, an enormous benefit in Florida's climate. The facility not only serves as a practice space, but also as a recruiting tool.

"When we link up arms, there's truly nothing we can't do" said USF president Rhea Law. "But in the end, it's truly all about what's best for our students."



Employees from OAS and IT posed for a group photo at the grand opening of the Porter Family Indoor Practice Facility.

CYPRESS HALL WATER LEAK

The Facilities Management team fixed a hot water leak near the Cypress Residence Hall on January 9.

The damaged pipe took hot water to the student dorms. Knowing the leak impacted all students living in the facilities, the team worked as quickly as possible to get it fixed, not even stopping for lunch!

The team demonstrated excellence at work and managed to solve the problem within an hour. They assembled repair clamps to temporarily contain the leak and have already scheduled the replacement of that section of the pipe. Thank you for your hard work!



Dante Fields, VP Carole Post, Clint Franklin, and Terry Pilon next to the fixed pipe.

RETIREMENTS

Frank Granda Jr.
Mgr Parking & Transportation Operations
Parking and Transportation Services
33 Years of Service

Lori Elliott
Office Manager
Facilities Management
25 Years of Service

Steven Bury
Maintenance Technician
Facilities Management
20 Years of Service

We
impact lives
everyday
by
exceeding
expectations
and
creating
WOW
moments.