

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

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Greetings FM Team,

Today is Cinco de Mayo, also known as Battle of Puebla Day. It's a holiday that began as a celebration of the Mexican army's unexpected victory over French troops, during a battle in the Franco-Mexican war in 1862. The small army's victory was symbolic and bolstered morale throughout the Mexican forces. However, Cinco de Mayo is observed very differently depending on where you live. In the city of Puebla, the event is celebrated with an arts festival and military reenactments, but in many areas of Mexico it is not celebrated at all. For the United States, the observation of Cinco de Mayo began in California in 1863, but has taken on a significance beyond the 1862 battle. In U.S. communities, particularly those with larger Latinx populations, Cinco de Mayo is often intended as a celebration of Latinx culture and heritage. The Cinco de Mayo festival in Denver, for instance, has occurred for over thirty years and is a tradition that aims to share the beauty of their vibrant Latinx population through music, dance, and food.

FM is strengthened by the diversity of our staff and community. Collectively, we bring so much to the table, and this becomes one of our greatest assets. Within our department, we have an assortment of backgrounds and experiences, including age, culture, education, skill sets gained from the public and private sectors, etc. Multiple perspectives allow us to tackle any challenge we may face as a department. As the world around us changes rapidly and we navigate the tough times ahead, we can draw on diversity as a valuable tool to keep our campus running smoothly and to foster a safe Ram community. Genuine curiosity for experiences and ideas that are different than our own will increase our strength exponentially. We know it is important to learn from and encourage the input of diverse cultures and backgrounds, and we are committed to continuing to create an inclusive FM team.

Sincerely,



Tom Satterly, P.E.
Associate Vice President for Facilities Management

<https://www.fm.colostate.edu/fmDaily>
fac_news@mail.colostate.edu