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FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

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Greetings FM Team,

I am sure some of you will see the FM Horticulture crew out and about this summer planting annuals and tending to the perennials on campus. The Horticulture crew is a part of Grounds within the Outdoor Services group, under FM Operations. They are tasked with maintaining spaces in a variety of areas including Main Campus, Housing and Dining areas, Foothills Campus, and at the Veterinary Teaching Hospital. Their team consists of Holly Miller, FM horticulture technician who designs and manages all Horticulture crew installations, and five FM student hourly employees. Izzy TerKuile plays a central role in both installation and plant health care management for their operations and has worked for FM for 3 years. She is majoring in Environmental Horticulture with a concentration in Nursery and Landscape Management at CSU. Lily Fendler, who joined the crew two seasons ago, is a soil and crops sciences major, and brings a combination of education, experience, and commitment to their team. Both Izzy and Lily have taken on leadership roles this summer to help train the new seasonal crew positions – Jessy Jiao, Zane Wilson, and Casey Johnston. They say they are “looking forward to watching these hourlies grow with our department – pun intended!” Scott Simonds, the Campus Arborist, is the supervisor for the Horticulture crew.

You may be surprised to learn that, despite the changes transforming campus in the last few months, their planting priorities for the summer were not affected. Holly submits her plant list in late fall and the plants are bought at that time. Through the bid process, FM commits to a nursery and the nursery special grows the order for CSU. All plants are planned for utmost success in their intended spaces, so while the crew can adjust the list if needed, they typically do not because it helps lessen the chance for plant failure or plant waste. Interestingly, most of the annuals that the crew places from May to June reach their full maturity beginning in August. This blooming is in conjunction with the return of the campus community. Creating beautiful outdoor spaces is a way that we can support the CSU population in staying healthy while supporting the ability to socially distance. In fall 2020, when they plan for next year’s installations, their goal will be to continue providing these campus benefits while also responsibly doing their part to address fiscal concerns.

The Horticulture crew plans to share some fun facts about their work in the summer edition of our Facilities Focus newsletter. Be on the lookout for that!

Sincerely,



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

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