



Celebrating Excellence Second Quarter 17-18

May 2018

Environmental Focus Earns Lani Cabico May 2Q18
Celebrating Excellence Award

Mei Lani Cabico May, Senior Environmental and Real Estate Planner in UTSA's Office of Facilities Planning and Development, was selected winner of the Second Quarter Business Affairs Celebrating Excellence Award.

Lani teamed up with colleagues to **create** a grant proposal to upgrade and study the effectiveness of stormwater management facilities on the UTSA Main Campus. The project aims to remove pollutants in stormwater runoff, helping protect the Edwards Aquifer.

Lani flexed her collaboration muscles by developing the project idea and construction and monitoring plans, which she and her Facilities colleagues will manage. She took the idea to the Department of Environmental Sciences and Ecology, whose personnel will conduct the research components of the project. Throughout the planning—and soon

implementation processes—Lani has **partnered** with Dr. Janis Bush, professor and chair of the Department of Environmental Science and Ecology and Dr. Brian Laub, Assistant Professor of Environmental Science and Ecology.



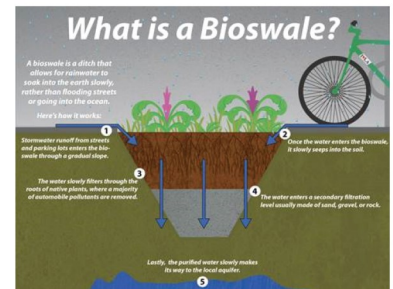
Collaborators Dr. Janis Bush (left) with Lani

Lani presented her grant proposal for funding to the

City of San Antonio Conservation Advisory Committee (CAB) on November 29, 2017, where it received initial support. On December 14, 2017 a proposal for a \$1,057,410 Edwards Aquifer Protection Grant was presented to City

of San Antonio City Council, where it received full funding approval.

Lani is a purpose-driven person whose approach reflects her passion and caring for others, as well as for nature. This innovative program demonstrates Lani's **values**, her **respect** for the environment and her focus on improving processes for UTSA and the community.



Lani's efforts are empowering faculty to teach new programs, empowering students to learn and grown in their knowledge of science, and empowering UTSA to be a better environmental servant in caring for the Edwards Aquifer. Lani further hopes that the project will serve as a model for designing other stormwater retrofit projects that will improve water quality in the Edwards Aquifer recharge zone and that it will provide a showcase facility to engage graduating Runners on the importance of water quality and conservation of natural resources.



Lani (right) receives award from VPBA Kathy Funk-Baxter (left)

Bike Mobility and Safety



Lani also **created** the Bike Mobility Plan for UTSA. This well-researched and comprehensive document is an enormous step forward

in our efforts to offer safe travel for bicyclists on UTSA campuses. Lani is also leading efforts to identify funding opportunities to expand this program.

She has been coordinating efforts for the Bike Mobility program with Campus Services, UTSA PD, the Rec Center, students, staff, and faculty.

Her work on the Bike Mobility Plan demonstrates her interest in supporting students and offering them a viable, enjoyable and safe means of commuting and exercising to and around UTSA’s campuses. Aligned with President Eighmy’s themes, a safer campus helps us foster exceptional student experiences and offers a stronger message for recruitment and retention.



Tree and Garden Support

Lani also played a key role in moving the Roadrunner Memorial Garden project forward. The commemorative event was held in February 2018. Lani is a member of the UTSA Tree Committee and was important in UTSA’s efforts to achieve the Arbor Day Foundation’s status as Tree Campus USA. Her respect for people and the environment is further underscored by her role in bringing trees to UTSA through the Arbor Day program and the 300th Anniversary donation of 75 trees from the City of San Antonio.

Lani’s work epitomizes **doing the right thing** for the right reasons. She cares deeply about UTSA and the

students under our care. She also cares about the community and the environment and considers herself a steward of both. She has managed to lead these major projects—and many others—while taking classes to enhance her ability to produce results on the job. “We are regularly impressed by Lani’s tenacity and ability to get things done,” said Benjamin Perry, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Planning & Development/University Architect. “Lani is very results-driven, and she strives for excellence every day!”

Congratulations, Lani!

Lani was recently accepted into the UTSA Environmental Science and Engineering Ph.D. program



Pictured left to right: Paul Goodman, Ernest Haffner, Ben Perry, Lani May and Dave Riker

