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## Meet our new employees!

Name: Teresa Mills Title: Associate Engineer Office: West Palm Beach Ms. Mills' skills include georeferencing, mapping and digitizing impervious areas in

ArcGIS. She is currently using GIS to assist the Cities of North Miami Beach and West Palm Beach and the Solid Waste

Authority of Palm Beach County.

Name: Giuliana Mendez Spirito Title: Associate Engineer Office: Miami

Ms. Mendez Spirito's previous experience includes serving as a structural engineering intern, architectural

intern, and general construction assistant and project supervisor for various firms in Florida and Panama.

## **Chen Employee Birthdays**



December 15 Paula Fonseca, E.I.



February 1 Angela Baron, E.I.



December 17 Carlos Morales



Safiya Brea, P.E., LEED® AP



December 26 Giuliana Mendez Spirito



February 10 Dr. Ben Chen, P.E., BCEE



Kathy Horrigan



February 18 Marcus Austin, G.C., LEED® AP

### **Chenniversaries**



December 3 - 6 years Michael Buick, P.E.

January 16 - 8 years

Suzanne Dombrowski, P.E.



January 2 - 12 years Marcus Austin, G.C., LEED® AP



January 3 - 8 years Joel Brownsey



January 9 - 2 years Angela Baron, E.I.



January 31 - 1 year Eric Harrison, RLA - 1 year



February 14 - 3 years Cris Betancourt, RLA



February 21 - 3 years Paula Fonseca, E.I.



**American Society** 

Cristobal Betancourt, RLA,

director of planning and

landscape architecture

of the Florida Chapter

of the American Society

of Landscape Architects

(FLASLA). His term runs

through November 2014.

**Cuban American** 

Engineers

**Association of Civil** 

Vice President Jose Acosta,

P.F. was sworn in as Vice

President of the Cuban

American Association of

Civil Engineers (CAACE) on

September 25 at the board

installation dinner. The

meeting was held at the

Coral Gables Country Club

and is an annual event to

recognize new officers.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF

LANDSCAPE

ARCHITECTS

was appointed Secretary

of Landscape

**Architects** 

# CHENquarterly

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# A Message from the President

Clients, Colleagues and Friends of CMA:

While the leaves don't change colors in most of our offices, I am reminded as we move into winter to appreciate our impact on the natural and built environment. "Oh, we've had a landscape architecture practice for two and a half years," is a reply that I find myself giving more and more these days. "Oh you didn't know?" inevitably follows, which then is paired with "We have a design studio with three RLAs and a certified irrigation designer. We've worked on dozens of projects throughout the State since we added this service and we are an unlimited DBE 15.0 certified with the FDOT." Such is the challenge of organic diversification of services and in this case, and for the first time, in something that I personally have no expertise in.

I have to admit, after 4 and a half years of study in civil engineering, I wasn't 100% sure what a landscape architect did when I graduated from college. As I began my career, I worked in the design-build of active parks and cellular towers, so I was more concerned about approvals than design - and most of our LA plans were "three gallon cocoplum hedge 18" O.C.". I am an active member of the Florida Engineering Society (FES) which has battled landscape architects for years on the signing and sealing of drainage calculations for environmental resource permits. Finally, when I joined Chen Moore, most of my time was dedicated to utility projects where performance outweighed aesthetics. So, back in early 2011, without much expectation, I met Cristobal "Cris" Betancourt who was asking about opening a landscape architecture practice for our firm. Cris is an interesting character. From Cuban decent,

but a native of New Jersey, he attended Cornell for his undergraduate degree in landscape architecture, but did post-bachelors study in Denmark in urban planning. His experience spans throughout the US, heavily in the Northeast, DC area and Florida, along with projects in the Caribbean, Middle East and Latin America. Fancy pedigrees like that are often contrary to my blue collar corporate attitude, but Cris was able to show me that he truly loved the end product – assisting the projects get completed. That, in a nutshell, is the Chen Moore landscape architecture practice - top down high level design and graphic support coupled with the ability to finalize out construction drawings, irrigation design and field reviews – an appreciation of the entire profession. We also have a focus on the integration of the site design with the requirements of civil and transportation engineers that makes the process collaborative, as opposed to combative.

As the feature on Page 2 will show, we've worked on a wide variety of landscape architecture projects, from a Greg Norman Golf Course, hardscaping on Lincoln Road, plantings along a roadway expansion and numerous site and irrigation designs. All of these designs feature the same, practical application for all the Chen Moore designs, coupled with a level of artistic design that was beaten from this old engineer years ago.

In addition to this "new" discipline for Chen Moore, you will see several of our employees contributing to the Florida Society of Landscape Architects (Cris Betancourt, Page 1), American Society of Civil Engineers (Jennifer Smith, Patrick Kaimrajh and myself, Page 3) and the Cuban American Society of Civil Engineers (Jose Acosta, Page 1). Please also welcome our former intern, Teresa Mills, and our first Florida State University engineering alumnus, Giuliana Mendez (Page 4) to the Chenpire as full

I want to wish a happy and safe holiday season to our friends and family throughout the world, Sincerely,

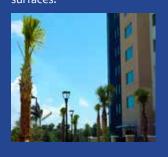


Peter Moore, P.E., LEED® AP President



## **Irrigation**

Irrigation is a major source of frustration for many Floridians. People are accustomed to our sidewalks being watered and our buildings being stained by poor quality water. At Chen Moore and Associates, we're here to make life easier. Our landscape architecture studio includes a Certified Irrigation Designer who not only designs irrigation systems, but can help you manage them as well. We are well versed in central control systems for large sites and have helped cities implement systems to save them time, money and water. This past year alone, we performed major irrigation studies for Fort Lauderdale International Airport and three of Broward County's Regional Parks. Properly designed and maintained irrigation systems provide benefits to our communities by helping our urban vegetative habitat survive during times of stress. Proper irrigation also benefits the athletic fields that our children play on to ensure safe healthy surfaces.



## **CMA's Landscape Architecture Division**



Chen Moore and Associates established its landscape architecture practice in 2011. From the beginning, our practice was diverse. Our first two projects involved the land use entitlement of an expansion to Palms West Hospital and the re-imagining of an 8th floor amenities deck

for a high rise along Miami's Biscayne Wall. In this short time, we have practiced our craft for municipalities throughout Florida. We have designed multiple streetscapes, parks, commercial, municipal, university and K-12 facilities; athletic facilities (including soccer fields, baseball fields and golf courses); and single and multi-family residences. Our

services include master planning, site planning, landscape, hardscape, pedestrian lighting, irrigation design, streetscaping, greenways, trails, habitat restoration, design review services and construction administration for landscape projects.

This summer, our team attended the ribbon cutting for our first major landscape architecture project, Florida Atlantic University's Parliament House Student Housing facility. The project includes an amenities courtyard with a sand volleyball court, outdoor grills and outdoor seating. The courtyard was designed to create places for relaxing, gathering and as a landscape to be gazed upon from within the high rise building. The plantings consist predominantly of Florida native species. The project is pursuing LEED silver certification through the US Green Building Council.

We were also able to play baseball recently, as phase one of Westside Park in Deerfield Beach was completed. The City incorporated a 200 foot little league baseball field into this urban park. The project also includes a second practice field and a pedestrian trail regularly used by local residents

for exercise. CMA is currently wrapping up the second phase of the park design, adding a 300 foot baseball field and a multipurpose field.

Our studio is currently designing the Coral Springs Downtown Core. As the City engages an A/E team to design its new municipal complex, CMA has focused on setting the stage for the project

by designing the streets leading to the new facility. We are particularly focused on NW 31st Court from North University Drive to Coral Hills Drive where we will convert an existing canal into an underground culvert to accommodate a neighborhood park to serve as the City's central gathering space for municipal festivals, greenmarkets and similar activities. The project also incorporates Complete Streets into the community, providing safe travel spaces for bicyclists, pedestrians and vehicles.

We are grateful to our clients and teaming partners for contributing to our success. Thank you for the work opportunities and the trust you place in us. You can reach our Director of Landsacpe Architecture and Planning, Cris Betancourt, RLA, to discuss our services any time at cbetancourt@ chenmoore.com or (561) 746-6900 ext. 1078.

## **Miami-Dade ASCE Awards and Board Installation Dinner**

Patrick Kaimrajh, E.I., associate engineer was awarded the Young Engineer of the Year Award at the Miami-Dade ASCE Awards and Board Installation Dinner on August 28 at the Rusty Pelican in Key Biscayne, Florida. Patrick was also installed as Secretary for the Branch. Zachary Seed, a CMA intern who currently attends the University of Miami, was also awarded the Miami-Dade Scholarship and the Student of the Year Award. Angela Baron, E.I., associate engineer, was installed as Younger Members Group Chair.

Each year the Miami-Dade Branch of ASCE recognizes excellence in civil engineering in Miami-Dade and Monroe Counties by presenting awards and scholarships at this event.

The Miami-Dade Branch is a subsidiary of the Florida Section, Region 5 of the American Society of Civil Engineers. With more than 700 members, the organization participates in community service and raises funds to provide local university students with scholarships. Regular meetings are held where members can network with other members and stay up to date on the latest engineering news and trends. For more information about the ASCE Miami-Dade Branch, please visit http://www.miamidade-asce.org/.





## **ASCE Broward Branch Officer Installation & Awards Ceremony**

Senior Engineer Jennifer Smith, P.E. became president elect of the ASCE Broward Branch on September 26 at the Grande Oaks Golf Club in Davie, Florida. Jennifer has previously served the Broward Branch as Bowl-A-Thon Chair, Younger Member Chair, Treasurer and most recently, Secretary.



## ASCE Broward Branch Bowl-a-Thon

Congratulations to the
2013 ASCE Broward Branch
Bowl-a-Thon champs - Jason
McClair, P.E. CFM, LEED®
AP; Peter Moore, P.E.,
LEED® AP, Joel Brownsey;
Derrick Smith, LEED® AP;
and Jennifer Smith, P.E.!
The team won first place
for the third time in a row!
In addition, Derrick won
highest male score and
Jennifer won highest female
score.

### ASCE Fellow

President Peter Moore,
P.E., LEED® AP was recently granted ASCE Fellow status.
The Fellow grade is held by fewer than 5% of ASCE members. Active Fellows around the world number over 6,200.

