Welcome to the first edition of the Physical Plant departmental newsletter! We’re really excited about this new publication and hope you find it an effective means of communicating what’s currently happening and upcoming events regarding the construction and operational aspects of the Physical Plant here on campus. We’re also going to use this venue to get to know each other better. Occasionally, you’ll read a profile on one or more of our employees and you get to know some very unique aspects of their work, or perhaps even a personal skill or hobby they possess outside the workplace. And, our We’ve Got Mail section will allow us to share many of the compliments we have received that highlight some of our outstanding performances. We’re sure you’ll enjoy the updates on many of the capital improvements soon to take place on campus. There’s going to be plenty of activities to write about, and our intentions are to give you accurate information right from the source.

Lastly, you’ll notice that we haven’t put a name of this newsletter yet. We’re waiting for someone to come up with the right name! If you have any ideas on what you think we should call it, don’t be shy. Let us know. Contact Tracey McDonald at 7-3591 or at tmcdonald@emich.edu. As always, we look forward to continuing to build a strong working relationship with you. As always, we are proud of the work we provide to the University and look forward to building a strong working relationship with you.

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PRIORITY #1 WORKING TO KEEP YOU SAFE

BY CHAD CROCKER

The Physical Plant has only one number one priority. That priority is safety, more specifically, providing a safe environment for education first. The largest part of this endeavor belongs to keys. We have written and received approval to initiate a new administrative key policy, which mirrors that of many other universities around the country. Under this policy the Physical Plant will know who has keys to what, and what all keys each individual has. To accomplish the task of acquiring this information; two processes are now underway. The first deals with auditing the keys that our campus community already has in their possession. The second process involves a new Key Request form. This form authorizes the key holder to be issued a new key and facilitates the tracking of all keys that we issue. The Physical Plant will not issue a key without a signed Key Request form.
MARK JEFFERSON SCIENCE COMPLEX PROJECT
BY SCOTT STORRAR

On January 27, 2007 the Board of Regents approved the appointment of DMJM Management and Lord, Aeck & Sargent Architecture to provide professional services for the Mark Jefferson Science Complex project which will be the University’s largest construction project in the history of the University. The project will consist of the renovation of the existing 180,802 square-foot Mark Jefferson Science building which is the primary science facility for the College of Arts and Sciences and a new addition that will consist of new science laboratories and research space among other building and programming needs. DMJM management will be providing owner’s representation services for this complex project from pre-design through project closeout. Lord, Aeck & Sargent Architecture along with a team of sub-consultants will be challenged with the task and responsibility for the design and engineering aspects of the project. The design process is expected to take approximately 12 months to complete. As we get going an overall project schedule will be developed but we are anticipating a completion date for the project in the fall.

On November 29, 2007 the Physical Plant invited architects, engineers, and design consultants to attend a presentation regarding how the procurement process is handled at EMU. Approximately 150 people, representing 98 companies were in attendance at the Student Center Ballroom. Janice Stroh opened the presentation describing the recent student success here on campus, noting the tagline, “Education First.” John Donegan included a brief discussion on the physical attributes of campus, from design through occupancy and maintenance, and described opportunities for sustainability. Scott Storrar and Sean Braden provided the descriptive presentation regarding the actual procurement of design services and described the projects by size and cost, the methods of bidding, and the methods of bid evaluation. Longerbeam, Temeyer, and Piach also provided significant support in the development of the process and the presentation materials. The presentation was a great success and was greeted with enthusiasm by the design community. A similar presentation for Contractors is anticipated.

PEASE AUDITORIUM MASONRY & EXTERIOR REPAIRS BY SEAN BRADEN

Starting in November, you may have noticed the erection of scaffolding at the main entrance of Pease. The exterior of Pease will be undergoing a major restoration over the next six to eight months. The good news is that the building will remain open while the restoration is conducted. Pease has been in service to the EMU community since 1914, is an integral part of the Music Department, and in 1974 was listed on the National Historic Registry. While the interior of Pease has undergone a renovation in the last ten years, the exterior has not had any significant work completed since the building was built. In 2006, Quinn Evans Architects was contracted to evaluate the exterior masonry and prepare construction documents. Repairs will include decorative terracotta, structural steel, tuckpointing, window repairs, and a roof replacement which will help
Grounds have had several projects over a large range of areas these last few months. Working with the Athletic departments we were able to improve the soccer field. In conjunction with the REC/IM the grounds staff renovated the volley ball court. A disc golf course was installed on West campus behind West View Apartments. This project was funded by one of our Eastern Alumni Eddy Drukis. When the Student Center was built, a section of land south of the Center was put aside for the development of a natural prairie rehabilitation program. We are determined that signage was needed to educate our community on why this area was not manicured like the rest of campus. Signage was developed and installed identifying the natural prairie rehabilitation program.

Waste Management: With the help of student organizations we have expanded the recycle program in Pray, Harrold, Roosevelt, Marshall and REC/IM. A campus wide steam trap survey is in progress to identify defective steam traps which are wasting steam energy. Once the survey is complete, we will be able to rectify these issues and save energy.

In an effort to improve service and break down barriers to communication, the Plant is opening up a new way for our customers to request service from us. We opened up our Work Order request system (iServiceDesk) so that all members of our community can place a request at their convenience. Simply click on the “Submit Work Order Request” link on the front page of our web site http://www.emich.edu/physplant/ to enter the work order request system. On the upper left hand side of the iServiceDesk page you can click the link to submit a request or query a request. To query a request you must have a work order number. The great thing about this system is that from the moment that you submit a request until the time that the work is completed, you will receive email notification of the status of the work. If you find that you are too busy to call in a work request, feel free to get online and submit your request through our online system. We are always happy to take your request through the phone, but we want you to know that you are welcome to use the same system that we use to request work.

The Physical Plant holiday potluck was a huge success. Everyone brought in their special dishes and there was more than enough food. The decorations were festive and everyone was in the holiday spirit. The food was delicious and the desserts were fantastic, especially the chocolate fountain. Many thanks go out to the committee members: Beard, Downs, Fly-Clark, Lynn-Veals, Gower, Kelley-Spencer and everyone that helped out on that day.

The Physical Plant adopted a family through the SOS Crisis Center’s “Adopt A Family.” We surpassed our expectations by collecting $765 in cash and gifts. We were able to fulfill their “wish list,” as well as provide extra items for the family through your generous donations. Thank you to all who donated, you are awesome!
The mission of the Physical Plant Department is to efficiently construct, renew, maintain, operate, and service the campus infrastructure, facilities, and grounds to provide a safe, clean, healthy, functional, and attractive living, working, and learning environment.

The main areas of responsibilities under the direction of the Physical Plant are facilities maintenance, facilities planning and construction management, custodial services and grounds operations.

**PROVIDING THE ENVIRONMENT FOR EDUCATION FIRST**

**NEWS FROM WITHIN**

**Announcements:**
Monica Fly-Clark is the proud grandparent of twin boys, Khalil and Kyerre, born on November 3rd. Congratulations!

**Promotions:**
Harold “Lucky” Grubaugh, Midnight Zone Manager

**AT-A-BOY**
Teodoro Andrade one of the midnight custodians at the REC/IM found a bank envelope with $125 in the Women’s locker room. Turning the money over to Donna at REC/IM, who in turn was able to get it back to the person who lost it.

**New Employees:**
Marsha Downs
Greg Wester
Sheila Hall
Curtis Wilson
Edward Sabo
Chad Crocker
John Donegan

**Retirements:**
Kudos to Luck Grubaugh and Otis Harris for the great work done on the floor at the REC/IM.

Kudos to Chris Grant and crew for going above and beyond expectations to make sure the Marshall Commons area was clean in time for their morning graduation celebration.