

PHYSICAL PLANT
NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2008

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BY JOHN DONEGAN

Our entire department should be proud of the many compliments we are receiving regarding the overall appearance of the campus. It certainly has been a busy summer for all of us and the entire campus community is receiving the benefits from the "fruits of our labor." I would like to express my sincere appreciation and thank you for a "job well done."

As we move into the winter months, we can expect to see many positive changes to our physical plant. A ceremonial ground breaking is scheduled for the Mark Jefferson Science Complex at the November Board of Regents meeting. This will make the beginning of construction of a new facility on the West side of both Mark Jefferson and Strong. A rendering of this new facility will be displayed in the lobby of the Physical Plant building.

Secondly, we will be relocating the DPS from inside the Parking garage to the space formerly used by the Hoyt Conference Center. Actual construction is scheduled to begin in late December.

Finally, the first Phase of the Pray-Harrold project is set to begin in December also. This first phase of renovation will improve the infrastructure servicing the ICT department.

While these projects will certainly enhance and compliment our campus, they represent just a small fraction of the infrastructure that the Physical Plant operates and maintains. We will continue to focus on our sustainability and energy conservation measures, along with enhancing the overall campus appearance with new building signage and way finding.

Once again, thanks for all your hard work. It is not going unnoticed and collectively we are making a positive impact for our students, faculty, and staff.

GO, SEE, AND EDUCATE YOUR EYE BY TRACEY MCDONALD

Eastern Michigan University, after a lengthy hiatus, will be hosting the MiAPPA (Michigan Association of Physical Plant Administrators) Conference in July 2009. MiAPPA Conferences allow facilities administrators throughout Michigan to come together to discuss and exchange ideas on various ways to improve the campus environment.

In preparation of our conference, I was excited to have been asked to attend this year's conference hosted by Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City on August 6th through 7th. This gave me the opportunity to gain insight into how conferences of this magnitude are conducted, and to help us plan for next year's event.

With an estimated 200 attendees, the conference included presentations on a variety of topics, panel discussions, and guided tours. Overall, I thought the conference was informative and well organized. I also found the staff at NMC friendly and accommodating. It was truly an educational experience and I (and I'm sure my colleagues would agree) would be remiss to say that taking in this experience from a few of NMC's facilities and the hotel, located off the beach of Traverse City's West Bay, provided stunning views of the area.

Stay tuned for more information about the upcoming MiAPPA 2009 conference.

There is only one thing about which I am certain, and that is that there is very little about which one can be certain.

Somerset Maugham (1874-1965) Writer

PEASE AUDITORIUM UPDATE BY TRAVIS TEMEYER

Renovations started this past November and significant masonry restorations are complete at Pease Auditorium. The Grunwell-Cashero Company actively worked on several aspects of the façade to improve its condition and appearance. Grunwell-Cashero has replaced all of the limestone and terra cotta pieces identified in the original scope, removed the canopy on the south side, completed 100% of the original scope brick replacement, completed the stairwell plaster and painting is inspecting and replacing flashing and additional cap stones on the main roof. As can be seen the scaffolding has been removed from the site. It is anticipated that all contractors currently on site will be completed by October 1, 2008. Additional interior painting is to be commenced in mid-September.

In addition to the masonry restoration, the roofing is currently being replaced by CEI of Michigan from Howell, MI. The roofing replacement is to be completed in September 2008.

PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY—HOYT CONFERENCE CENTER BY TRAVIS TEMEYER

On June 17, 2008 the EMU Board of Regents approved \$3.9 million to renovate Hoyt Conference Center for the DPS facility. With this approval, the project was submitted to the State of Michigan joint Capital Outlay Subcommittee (JCOS) for approval on June 26, 2008.

With the Schematic Design completed August 1, 2008, the architect, Hooker DeJong from Muskegon, MI, moved into Design Development. The Design Development documents were completed by Hooker DeJong on September 5, 2008 and are currently being reviewed by EMU.

The anticipated schedule of events includes completing the design on November 21, 2008, bidding to be completed in December 2008, construction start in January 2009, and substantial completion in August 2009.

MARK JEFFERSON SCIENCE COMPLEX PROJECT

BY SCOTT STORRAR

The final member of the Mark Jefferson Science Complex project team was selected in June 2008. The Christman Company/Dumas joint venture partnership has successfully integrated themselves as a member of the team providing construction management services for the project.

Through the efforts of many, the Mark Jefferson Science Complex project has reached a major milestone in the design process. At the end of August, architect Lord Aeck & Sargent submitted the much anticipated schematic design documents. Currently underway, Christmas/Dumas is conducting a constructability review which will include a verification of costs to ensure that the design at this stage matches the budget.

While those efforts are taking place, Lord Aeck & Sargent is developing an early Site Bid package with anticipation of site mobilization and early site work starting in December.

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 (CAS) and a new addition that will consist of new science laboratories and research among other building and programming needs.

CLASSROOM UPGRADE PROJECT

BY KAY SEKERAK

The final installment to the Classroom Upgrade Project, which began in December of 2006, is complete. This past June, the Academic Affairs Divisional Planning Committee approved new furnishings for classrooms in Alexander, Pray Harrold, and the Owen buildings.

Alexander received new musical posture student chairs with folding tablet arms. The seating provides flexible support for increased comfort and promotes easier breathing. The tablet arm accessory folds completely behind the chair during practice sessions. Dr. Woike reports that the students are very pleased with the new seating.

The College of Arts and Sciences requested furnishings that will support a variety of learning settings, provide flexibility for multiple instructors and reconfigure easily. The new furniture includes height adjustable mobile tables, seating on casters, adjustable podiums, and mobile easels. The Owen building received 21 new tables for room 101A.

This project could not have been a success without the efforts of many different departments on campus.

HVAC NEWS BY MARK MONARCH



Major maintenance and upgrade work was performed on the cooling tower serving Halle Library last June. The cooling tower is an integral component of the cooling system and rejects heat from the building to the outdoors similar to the outdoor condenser unit found on a typical residential unit. The work should help save energy and water and increase the reliability of the Halle Library cooling system.

PLUMBING SHOP NEWS BY DENNIS PAUL



Last fiscal year, energy saving faucets and fixtures were installed at many of the residence halls and apartments throughout campus including 75 kitchen faucets, 264 bathroom faucets, and 33 shower heads yielding an estimated annual savings of over \$13,500 and a simple pay-back of 2.0 years.

"Persistence is what makes the impossible possible, the possible likely, and the likely definite."

SUMMER HOUSING PROJECTS BY AMY NOLFF AND CHRIS LONGERBEAM

This summer our students' living experience on campus was dramatically impacted by spending a total of \$2.9 million in the First Year Center and Hill Hall.

The First Year Center received miscellaneous painting throughout the buildings. All four buildings: Phelps, Sellers, Walton, and Putham received in total 1200 sets of door room furniture including: bed, desk, and a dresser for each student. The new beds are elevated and allow the dresser to fit underneath while also providing for additional storage space. As an additional feature, the students may also elect to bunk the beds creating more floor space.

The two main lounges of the First Year Center received a projector, 100" screen, and new furniture. Each floor lounge now has it's own 37" LCD TV and a separate study lounge.

In preparation for the reopening of Hill Hall, \$1.4 million was spent on interior renovation. The project began in May 2008 and was completed prior to the students moving in.

Continuation.....

The student residence rooms were completely gutted including the demolition of two built-in desks, a built-in dresser and miscellaneous millwork, as well as the removal of the room carpet and bathroom VCT. The new accommodations include a new oak desk, dresser, and full-sized bed. New custom oak laminate millwork was installed in the closet area of each residence room. The rooms were also painted, new blinds installed, receptacles and switches were replaced and the holes where the in-wall phones once existed were covered with stainless steel plates.

The common corridors were painted and carpeted. Accent paint colors were used throughout the building. New resilient flooring was installed at each elevator lobby. On each level, one lounge was converted into a study lounge with reconfigurable tables, chairs and a wall-mounted white board. The main lounge on each floor is receiving all new furniture along with 42" LCD wall mounted TVs.

On the ground floor, you are greeted with new energy efficient lighting in a new suspended ceiling. Upgraded security cameras were installed as well as a night watch monitor. New openings were created reconnecting the main lounges. The west lounge features a projector with a 100" screen and new lounge furniture while the east lounge includes both an air hockey and foosball table along with its own 42" LCD TV and café height tables. New Corian counters were installed in the kitchenette as well as a glass-top stove and new seating.

This project used many green aspects including recycling of all old carpet. The new carpet contains 25% post-industrial recycled content. The floor tile contains no PVC (polyvinyl chloride), and emits no VOC's (volatile organic compounds). The room furniture has an environmentally friendly finish which is a 100% water-based product that contains no hazardous emissions. The hardwood materials are American grown and harvested under certifiably sustainable forest management practices. One hundred percent of the wood scrap from the manufacturing process of the hardwood furniture products is reused for alternative wood products i.e. hardboard.

The combination of technology and sustainable-aspects of this project has been very well received. With construction substantially complete, the lounge furniture is expected to be installed during the next couple of months.

Questions are never indiscreet. Answers sometimes are.

Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)
Writer

SUMMER, SUMMER, SUMMERTIME BY REGINA KELLEY-SPENCER

The Physical Plant summer picnic was held on July 31, 2008 at the Lake House. Everyone enjoyed hotdogs and hamburgers with all the fixings grilled by the Dining Services staff, refreshing lemonade, fresh fruit and cookies. Tournament games were held such as: corn hole, hillbilly golf, and washers. A special event, the tricycle races, was held just for laughs, although Karla Gower clearly emerged as the tricycle champion. Thanks to the Children's Institute for loaning us the kid tricycles so that we could have some fun too!

Others who have bragging rights are: Kevin Abbasse and Jane Bartman Facility Maintenance for corn hole; Dennis Paul, Plumbing Shop and Daryl Hendricks, Carpenter Shop for the washer toss; and Paul Peeler, Administrative student and Josh Mathia, Recycling student for hillbilly golf.



CUSTODIAL & GROUNDS NEWS BY DIETER OTTO

Again the custodians have done a great job in getting the campus ready for the opening of the school year. Between the classroom buildings and dorms, the custodial department covers over 4 million square feet. Custodial also supports projects throughout the summer. The Hill renovation and all of the work in the freshmen center created some interesting weeks prior to move-in.

Interesting Trivia, the classroom buildings have over 500 paper towel dispensers that dispense more than 6.5 million feet of recycle paper towel.

This summer the Grounds department has been working at developing a pattern language for the landscaping around campus. Many of you may have already noticed a change, I have been receiving a lot of positive feedback from the University community and our neighbors on the way the campus looks. Grounds are incorporating native Michigan rock and foliage into the existing landscape and developing new landscape projects with this scheme. The Grounds department will continue on these projects until the snow hits.

BORDER TO BORDER TRAIL BY DIANE LYNN-VEALS

This spring, Eastern Michigan University and Washtenaw County Parks & Recreation came together in a collaborative effort to repave the asphalt on the bike path. On August 27th, EMU President, Susan Martin and Robert Tetens, Director of the Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation Commission lead a ribbon cutting ceremony to officially "re-open" the bike path. The 3200 foot path is considered a segment of the Border to Border trail, a 35 mile running and biking path that connects communities in Washtenaw County.



On the wall of my room when I was in rehab was a picture of the space shuttle blasting off, autographed by every astronaut now at NASA. On the top of the picture it says, "We found nothing is impossible." That should be our motto.

Christopher Reeve, Actor

NEWS FROM WITHIN

Physical Plant welcomes new staff members:

Elizabeth Smith, Customer Service Representative II;

Garin Grady, Custodian

Jason Dykes, Custodian.

Recently Retired: Wes Langer, Custodial Supervisor over 20 years of service and Dawn Robbins, Custodian over 20 years of service.

Happy Birthday To You!

September Birthday Celebrations: Chad Crocker, Jane Bartman, Dennis Paul, Karla Gower, Bilal Sarsour, and Regina Kelley-Spencer

October Birthday Celebrations: Marsha Downs, Ray Sowers, and Henry Braunz, Meilin Kaake



Scott Storrar celebrates his birthday Ariel-style!

What: Physical Plant Employee Chili Cook-Off

Where: Main Conference Room

When: Thursday, October 30th (11:30 a.m. Day Shift, 7:00 p.m. Afternoon Shift, and 2:30 a.m. Midnight Shift)

Why: Cause sometimes you just need to chill out!

Sponsored by your Physical Plant Party Palooza and Positive People Planning with Pazazz (P8) Task Force.

The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything.

Author Unknown

WE'VE GOT MAIL!



Custodial & Grounds

Hi, **Dieter**, I've been watching the grounds crew over the last few days. They have really been working hard all around the Student Center. It is really making a positive difference! Please tell your crews how much we appreciate it! Thanks.

Glenna Frank Miller

Building Services

Thank **you** for all your help with the MIFA high school tournament that came to campus last weekend. Despite some rain showers, the two days were wonderful because of the work you and your staff did — from picking up trash, to serving meals, to simply meeting and greeting our visitors. We had about 800 students, 185 coaches and judges, plus their family and friends representing 85 school districts from across the state. Comments were often heard that we were a great (the best) host site. AND I know that's because of your willingness to be engaged in the event and your determination to "put our best foot forward." Please know how much all of us in CTA appreciate your support. Please kindly help me send this message forward to the other people you worked with during the day. There are so many to thank.

Wendy Kivi, Special Events Manager, Communications and Theatre Arts

Design Services

Hi, **Kay**, I just wanted to let you know that I LOVE my new office furniture. Thanks so much for all your help with our move—we appreciate it!!!

Sandra M. Gonzales, Director, Upward Bound

Thanks, **Amy!** We're lovin' the EN furniture and so is everyone else! Great job!

Kara Corwin, Senior Account Specialist, Convocation Center

Kay, just to let you know, my new carpet is down and looks great! The guys were wonderful and did a terrific job. Thanks again.

Mary K. Schneider, DMA, Director of Bands

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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.

The Physical Plant newsletter is produced by staff of the Plant. Its purpose is to inform Plant staff and the University community of activities, accomplishments, and information about our organization and the work we perform.

PROVIDING THE ENVIRONMENT FOR
EDUCATION FIRST