

# PLANT NEWS

SPRING 2014

## WELCOME BACK TO PLANT NEWS

BY: SCOTT STORRAR, BILAL SARSOUR & DIETER OTTO

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### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Expansion of the Custodial Staff
- Birthday shout outs
- Welcome to the Physical Plant
- Photos of Projects
- Our deepest sympathies & remembrance of
- Physical Plant babies!

Welcome back to Plant News, the physical plant's quarterly newsletter designed to inform you of what's happening in the Physical Plant department. It's been a while since our last newsletter so we thought it appropriate to mention some of the great accomplishments the Physical Plant has been involved in across campus during that hiatus.

It's been a very busy time for the Physical Plant since the last newsletter. The new science complex and renovation was completed, the Pray Harrold \$40 million dollar State of Michigan appropriated renovation project has been well received, the McKenny Hall ballroom underwent a facelift and is now re-opened for events and the lighting retrofit project at Alexander has reduced energy consumption

and merited a rebate from DTE. Campus site amenities have been standardized across campus such as waste receptacles and way finding to create a stronger pattern language across campus; our work order system was converted from a server based to a web based system with the data being hosted in Tulsa Oklahoma creating a more secure environment for our important facilities data; 17,750 work orders have been submitted from July 1, 2013 through March 31, 2014 with 91% of those completed to date. Every month approximately 350,000 square feet of special cleaning projects are completed. Also, while Mother Nature delivered a record breaking snowfall and record breaking cold temperatures this past winter here in Michigan, the plant was able to

successfully maintain campus operations and functions.

The results of the hard work and dedication don't go unnoticed. We continue to receive numerous compliments for the services we're providing and the overall appearance of campus as we support the overall mission of the University. With pride we can appreciate what we've done, what we're doing and what we will do in the future.

We look forward to bringing you more information in future newsletters and we hope you enjoy reading what's happening today.

Scott Storrar

Director, Facilities Planning & Construction

Bilal Sarsour

Director, Facilities Maintenance

Dieter Otto

Director, Custodial, Motor Pool & Grounds Services

**AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION (AHA) WALK & 5K RUN**

The Physical Plant is currently putting together a team to participate in Washtenaw County's My Heart. My Life Heart Walk and 5K Run for the American Heart Association this May 10, 2014 which will be held on EMU's campus for the first time. Our team name will be "Let's Get

Physical Plant". We will be conducting various fundraising efforts over the next couple of months including donation jars throughout the plant, bottle and can drives, and Jean Friday's. Our team goal is to raise \$3000 for cardiovascular disease and stroke research and education in the hopes

that we can help the AHA meet their goal of reducing deaths from cardiovascular disease and strokes by 20% by the year 2020. If you are a walker or a runner and are interested in participating and or donating to this great cause, please contact **Chris Grant** for more details at 734-487-0435.



**STORM WATER MANAGEMENT**

Storm water management has become an increasingly large part of the grounds department duties in the last couple of years. EMU has been participating with the City of Ypsilanti to maintain and monitor all storm water infrastructures and good housekeeping procedures in and around campus. These procedures include sweeping lots and streets at least twice per year at a minimum, clean-

ing and repairing catch basins as needed, maintaining erosion control methods on all construction projects and public education to spread the word of the importance of maintaining the health of our surface waters in the Middle Huron Watershed. Public education projects include: Annual drain labeling events, the Heritage Festival Green tent, the Westview Apartments rain garden

project and a rain barrel installation at the Giving Garden informational kiosk located near the Rec-Im softball complex. Representatives from EMU will also be attending the Michigan Green Infrastructure Conference May 8th-9th in Lansing in order to remain on the cutting edge of being "Green."

-Chris Grant, Manager Grounds

"The most wasted of all days is one without laughter."  
-E.E. Cummings

**WASTE MANAGEMENT**

Did you know that it is cheaper to recycle materials than it is to throw them into a landfill? In 2013 EMU spent \$57.74 per ton to send refuse to landfills compared to

\$20.57 per ton to send refuse to be recycled. This means that we save money when we recycle. Our recycle rate for 2013 was 10.5% which was 1% better than we did

in 2012 (9.5%). Let's keep this trend climbing by recycling as much as possible in 2014.

-Chris Grant, Manager Grounds

Eastern Michigan University



Earning Our Colors

## FIXTURES, FURNISHING, & EQUIPMENT

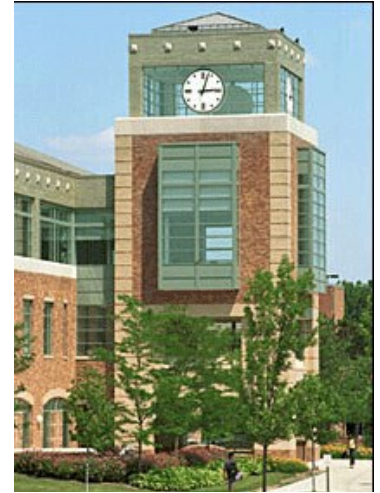
BY: ROBERT DENSIC

As the mountains of snow begin to melt (finally), the Planning and Design group continues to address the growing mountains of FF&E requests. Following a three year trend, request for new finishes, furnishings and equipment have increased 33% over last year's record-setting pace. We also tracked a large spike in requests in March and April due to the upcoming end of the fiscal year. Our team received 197 requests in

FY13 and we are on track to top 225 requests in FY14. Nearly 80% of all requests become projects with an average value of \$10,000-\$12,000 each.

We ask all requestors to provide complete data on their requests, specifically identifying account numbers and request completion dates. Due to the extreme volume of requests, we cannot guarantee completion dates before the end of

the fiscal year for any request submitted after April 4, 2014. It should be noted projects vary in scope and complexity, therefore we cannot guarantee any scheduled completion without first reviewing and vetting the request.



## PLANNING & DESIGN

BY: ROBERT DENSIC

Fall 2014 has been a year marked by successful design projects coming to realization. Rackham Hall, Snow Pharmacy/Women's Clinic, and Best Hall renovations are just some of the projects either completed or soon to be. Once the weather breaks, the EMU campus will again see signs of construction life as projects on Fletcher/ACC, Sculpture Studio, DPS expansion, and McKenny One-Stop-Shop

kick off. Off campus, work is underway at Saint Joseph's Hospital on a joint effort with our new physicians assistance program to create a hi-tech simulation lab and an anatomy lab. Planning for FY15 is already in high gear with efforts focused on Rackham Hall (Phase II -CHHS), Wise Hall, improvements at various dining facilities, and work at Rynearson Stadium

(lighting and sinkhole repairs.)

A long overdue upgrade to the Physical Plant's conspectus drawings is anticipated to begin in FY15, which will assist the Emergency Management department in completing upgrades to emergency/evacuation signage throughout all campus facilities.

**"It does not take a majority to prevail...but rather an irate, tireless minority, keen on setting brushfires of freedom in the minds of men."  
-Samuel Adams**

## PLANNING & DESIGN TEAM

Bob Densic, R.A.— Manager, Planning & Design

Kay Sekerak— Interior Design

Amy Nolf— Interior Design

Catherine Sperling—Interior Design Intern



**EXPANSION OF OUR CUSTODIAL STAFF**  
**BY: DIANE LYNN-VEALS**

Please welcome the Student Center staff: Alan Marshall, Cyndi Jones, Lori Householder, Calvin Clark Jr., Torrance Hughbanks, Evelyn Barber, Laura Arbaugh, Greg Tisdale, Mark Herndon and Terry Johnson to the Physical Plant family. The custodial department has worked diligently in making sure that their transition is smooth as possible. They are now part of our family!



Greg Tisdale



Cyndi Jones



Mark Herndon



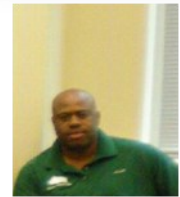
Calvin Clark Jr.



From left: Alan Marshall, Lori Householder, Torrance Hughbanks, & Evelyn Barber.



Laura Arbaugh



Terry Johnson

**MCKENNY HALL: OPEN FOR EVENTS**

Since opening McKenny back up for events, we've been given the opportunity to work with the Events Planning department through McKenny. We're working closely with Ann Klaes, Kevin Lawson and Meg Castro to ensure that the meeting rooms, as well as the Ballroom area are maintained and monitored and custodial coverage is available as needed.

We're looking forward to working with them to expand this process across campus.

-Diane Lynn-Veals

"When the world says, 'Give up,' Hope whispers, 'Try it one more time.'"

-Author Unknown

**BIRTHDAY SHOUT OUTS!**

**April Birthdays:**

Tracey McDonald — Apr. 3  
 Tristin Taylor — Apr. 3  
 Dieter Otto — Apr.17

**May Birthdays:**

Terry Schaefer— May 6  
 Josh Tabaka— May 21

**June Birthdays:**

Catherine Sperling — June 6  
 Brianne Gregware — June 14  
 Ken Walters — June 15



## RACKHAM HALL RENOVATION

BY: CHRIS LONGERBEAM

Rackham Hall Renovation for the new Physician Assistant (PA) Program is in the final stages of construction. This building, originally constructed in 1938 for the Special Education program and converted to the Children's Center, is now receiving a new lease on life. The over \$3.6 million renovation will include a complete renovation of the 2nd floor, new furniture, and medical equipment for the PA program, bringing the building into the 21st century.

The Physical Plant project team of Robert Densic, Amy Nolff, and Chris Longerbeam worked with TMP Associates, and Peter Basso Engineering to convert the under-utilized building to the stringent specifications of the PA Program while always keeping in mind the historical nature of the building. The construction work was managed, on site, by Ron Huck with McCarthy and Smith general contractors and countless subcontractors and trades.



Roosevelt Conference Room



Women's Restroom



Monumental Stair



Mechanical Room

The 2nd floor will have many unique elements including advanced lecture-style classroom, mock patient exam areas, a restored Eleanor Roosevelt conference room, period correct light fixtures, & soffit corridor ceilings. Also, many of the building's Art Deco features were saved or restored, including the Franklin tiles, wood paneling, and exterior light fixtures.

Many building & code enhancements are being made at the same time including new restrooms, enhanced AV & security, wireless, and a complete fire suppression system throughout.

The renovation is scheduled for completion mid to late April. The PA Program will begin utilizing this new space immediately with the first classes starting in spring semester.

## WELCOME TO THE PHYSICAL PLANT!

**Kyleen Vincke:** Electrician

**David Love:** Materials Management Worker

**Joel Baetens:** Manager, Energy & Utilities

**Steven Pierson:** Elevator Technician

**Chuck Bollinger:** Stationary Engineer/Mechanic

**Brian Smith:** Electrician

**Catherine Sperling:** Interior Design Intern

**Richard Romanowski:** Student IT Administrator

**Tristin Taylor:** Student Receptionist

**Brianne Gregware:** Student Receptionist

**Brian Venable:** Project Engineer Intern

**Morris Boyd:** Custodial Services

**Maria Gonzalez:** Custodial Services

**Arden Paustian:** Custodial Services

**Maritza Gustafson:** Custodial Services

**Blanca Jordan:** Custodial Services

**Yorlenti Ronas:** Custodial Services

### BEST HALL FF&E RENOVATION BY: ANTHONY DUTY

The resident halls complex on the east side of campus was constructed from 1957-1964 and includes four resident halls: Downing, Buell, Wise and Best. Best and Wise were the last two of the four buildings that opened in 1964. The building is named in honor of Martha Best who served as a professor from 1924 until 1952. The renovation of the 49 year old Best Hall started this past May & was completed on schedule in late August in time for the fall semester to start. The Best Hall FF&E Project was comprised of a 68,516 square

feet interior renovation. The project renovation started with the demolition and abatement of 60,000 square foot of existing flooring. The 152 dorm room upgrades incorporated new finishes throughout which included: paint, millwork, a wood grain resilient flooring system along with all new furniture. A new conference room was integrated into the second floor, and the second floor area nicknamed by the staff and students of Best "The Awkward Space" was reconfigured into a new multipurpose room and corridor

with all new furniture, finishes and equipment. The IT room was expanded and a new wireless system was added throughout the building. New furniture, solid surface counter-tops, sinks, flat panel TVs, microwaves were included in the study and kitchenette lounges. The main lounge updates included new ceiling configuration, furniture and fixtures and a new fireplace façade with a Motawi tile mosaic, as well as front desk area being redesigned to become the focal point of the lobby.



Best Hall Front Desk



Best Hall Multipurpose Room



Best Hall Lounge Fireplace



Best Hall Conference Room

**“Everything we hear is an opinion, not a fact. Everything we see is a perspective, not the truth.”  
-Marcus Aurelius**

**MATERIALS MANAGEMENT NEWS**

**BY: DAVID LOVE**



Hello, from the Materials Department.

I would like to first start by introducing myself. My name is David Love from Ypsilanti, MI born and raised. I have been married to my wife Amanda since 2008. We have 2 kids, Cameron and Kayleigh and come July we will be having another boy. I took over the Materials Management position on December 1<sup>st</sup> 2013. I look forward to my new career here at Eastern Michigan University.

It is an exciting, yet challenging time for the Materials department. We are currently setting up an inventory system and are committed to providing better service to the university. With this new system, we will be able to supply parts in a more timely fashion to the trades, so they can keep EMU running efficiently. I would like to thank all the trade workers for their support and patience while we work to set up this system.

Special thanks to Regina Kelley & Michael Dilaccovo for their continued support . To all the students, Josh, Alida, & Lena, I would like to thank you for all your help as I get acclimated with the system.

**PHOTOS OF PROJECTS**

**BY: DAVID LOVE**



New belt inventory room labeled & in WEBTMA.



Rack for all the B&G Parts: Motors, power packs, bearings, & sleeve kits.



Plumbing room 3 with finished barcodes BARAD (PL3-1000)



New ballast racking system sorted by type



Plumbing room 2 is labeled & organized.

**"A smart man makes a mistake, learns from it, and never makes that mistake again. But a wise man finds a smart man and learns from him how to avoid the mistake altogether."  
-Roy H. Williams**

**KUDOS TO YOU!**

Bob Rasmussen and Bryan Kennedy received kudos from Alex Oakes from Strong Hall complimenting them on a job well done on keeping the building looking good.

**WELCOME BACK!**

Welcome back Regina Kelley to the Physical Plant. She is the BOM !  
(Business Operations Manager)

**We are on the web!**

<http://www.emich.edu/physplant/>

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**ABOUT THE PHYSICAL PLANT**

The Physical Plant at Eastern Michigan University is an organization of qualified individuals dedicated to the common goal of maintaining a physical environment that promotes education, research and community service. Led by the Vice President of Operations and Facilities, reporting directly to the Office of the President, the Physical Plant is committed to support the overall mission of the University by sharing a sense of purpose and ownership with the institution through effective organizational structure, operational efficiency, and competent fiscal management.



**PLANT BABIES!**



Aida and Sam Beard became proud grandparents on November 6, 2014. She is a beautiful baby girl named Isabella Marie Gray, born to parents Lindsay & Jeff Gray.



Harold Grubaugh became a grandpa to a healthy baby boy, Colton Vaughn Grubaugh. He was born Sunday, February 9, 2014 weighing 7 lbs 6 oz.



Josh Tabaka and his wife Beth, had their first child, Abigail Grace, on February 2, 2014. She was 8 lbs 1 oz. and 21 inches long.



Arden Paustain had a baby boy, James Alexander Paustain, born January 13, 2014. 8lbs 2 oz, 20 inches long. Isn't he a charmer!

**OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY & REMEMBRANCE OF**

Marc Paton lost his mother on February 26, 2014

Luis Hernandez — Passed away on February 13, 2014