

FACILITIES *in* **REVIEW**



UNIVERSITY of
HOUSTON
FACILITIES/CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT

2017
SPRING

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Welcome

We are happy to present the next edition of “Facilities in Review”, the bi-annual publication of the University of Houston department of Facilities/Construction Management (F/CM). This edition takes a look at the highlights and accomplishments of the first part of 2017. The publication reflects the numerous and varied aspects of how the department helps keep the University’s physical environment operating smoothly. It also takes a look at some of the construction projects that are helping make our campus a unique and beautiful place to live, to work and to learn.

What is contained in this publication is but a small representation of Facilities’ overall accomplishments on behalf of the University. We feel they are the highlight of the time period covered in this edition. They cover the span of introducing some of our newest Facilities employees including the new executive director for Facilities Services to a behind-the-scenes look at the members of the FIXIT Customer Service Team: the frontline of the department’s customer outreach component. FIXIT’s motto is, “Do right. Do your best. Treat others as you want to be treated.”

Included in this edition is information about the unique new Faculty Café, which was designed as a “collision space”, a place of informal interaction and engagement between academic colleagues. We have also again included a popular section dedicated to feedback we receive about our services but more importantly about the wonderful job being done by our Facilities employees.

I sincerely hope you enjoy this edition. A lot of work and dedication to telling the Facilities story has gone into developing this publication – it is our desire that it be interesting, educational, informative, and a pleasure to read. If you have any feedback that you would like to provide about this publication or our services and programs, we invite you to share it with us by going to www.uh.edu/fixit and entering your comments in the Customer Comments and Concerns section located on the right-hand side of the FIXIT page.

On behalf of myself and the entire Facilities family of employees, thank you for your interest and continued support.

David Oliver



Billion Dollar Campaign Competition for Facilities/ Construction Management



Congratulations MRO/Contracts team for having 100% participation in the "Here We Go" Campaign!

Building Coordinator Program

The Building Coordinator Program continues to be a successful way to connect, communicate and care for the campus community. This program is directed by Assistant Director of Customer Service Jacquie Vargas and managed by Facilities Communications Coordinator Jennifer Rea.

On a quarterly basis, all Building Coordinators and Building Coordinator partners are invited to meetings in order to help give an opportunity for information and discussions. These meetings give building representatives along with Facilities representatives a time to talk through facility related issues. It also helps everyone put faces to names that are seen through electronic communications and phone calls.

A Building Coordinator Program Manual of Administrative Policies and Procedures (MAPP) was finalized and approved in December 2016. It was a great accomplishment and gave the program a sense of permanency.

There are many tasks and responsibilities asked of Building Coordinators.

A monthly review of Campus Carry signs within the interior and exterior of their buildings has been an addition to their list. They must send in a monthly report noting any signage issues to the Campus Carry Committee.

Over the last few months they also have worked closely with the Exterior Key Core Change project and communicating to their building users how the card access will be put into place.

The Building Coordinators are relied upon for multiple campus needs and UH Facilities would like to thank them for a job well done.

Employee Highlights

Robert Parker
User Services Specialist

Robert comes to us from Jacobs Engineering and possesses the expertise of supporting and teaching over 2,000 personnel in the construction and engineering field. He has extensive knowledge helping customers with their IT needs in person, by phone, or remotely.

Robert earned a BS in Computer Science Information Systems from the University of Houston-Victoria. He hit the ground running on January 2, 2017 and has begun responding to Facilities IT Work Requests.



Anthony L. Davis
Construction Estimator

Anthony Davis started as the new Estimator with our Planning team in April. Anthony is a graduate from Auburn University with a degree in Construction Management.

Since graduation, he has worked as both a Project Manager and an Estimator. Past employers include the Department of Commerce, Caddell Construction in Alabama, and Pacific Architects and Engineers where he was the Estimator for the Johnson Space Center account.



Edward Mader
Project Manager

Ed Mader joined as Project Manager with our Facilities Planning and Construction team in April. Ed is a proud Cougar Alum with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. He is a licensed Professional Engineer in the State of Texas.

For the last 21 years he worked at Randalls Food Markets as Construction Manager. Ed and his wife Tami have 4 children and have lived in the same house in Sugar Land for 29 years.



Rick R. Schell
Assistant Director of Central Plant

Rick Schell joined as the new Assistant Director of Central Plant in May. Rick is a graduate and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Houston, "GO COOGS".

Since graduation, he has worked in Construction, Electrical/Controls, HVAC, Instrumentation/Analyzers, Chemical, Plant Operations, Nuclear, Refinery, Drilling & Completions, and the Regulatory Compliance Industries. Past employers include United Valve, Marathon Oil Corporation, Marathon Petroleum Company, Sterling Chemicals Incorporated, and Bechtel at South Texas Nuclear Facilities, where he was Supervisor of various crews and projects.

Rick is a native Texan and Houstonian, has been married 36-yrns to his wife, also a University of Houston Graduate, and they have one daughter who recently graduated with her Masters from Texas A&M University.



William L. Boykins
Assistant Project Manager

Will relocated from Norfolk, Virginia to the Houston area in 2015. He graduated from Norfolk State University with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Building Construction Technology.

With 7 years of experience, Will has worked with both public and private sectors within the construction field. He has worked on a wide variety of projects including Utility Improvements, City Libraries and Upscale Apartments ranging in cost of \$500 thousand - \$32 million.

Will became a part of the Cougar family in June and joined the UH Facilities Planning and Construction team. He is looking forward to learning and expanding his career at the University of Houston.





New Executive Director for Facilities Services

Jeffrey L. Benjamin, P.E. has been named Executive Director of Facilities Services for the University of Houston.

A licensed professional engineer in the state of Texas, Jeff Benjamin began his career as an Electrician's Mate in the United States Navy in Denver, Colorado. He retired after 24 years of service as a Lieutenant Commander with the Navy's Civil Engineer Corps in 2013. Most recently, he was the Project Director for the City of Houston's Northeast Water Purification Plant Expansion Project, a \$1.5 Billion, 320 million gallon per day expansion to the City's Northeast plant and currently the largest design-build water purification plant project in the world.

Jeff graduated from Vanderbilt University with a bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering and from North Car-

olina State with a Master's Degree in Construction Engineering and Management. He is currently serving on the board of directors of the Southwest Region of the Design-Build Institute of America and continues to have a strong commitment to public service.

With over 20 years of experience managing projects and facilities worldwide for the Navy and Marine Corps in austere environments, Jeff brings a diverse and seasoned facilities related background to the University.

As Executive Director, Jeff looks forward to providing leadership and direction to Facilities Services which includes custodial services, grounds maintenance, facilities management, as well as operation and maintenance of the central plant.

"I am extremely excited to become a part of the University of Houston team. I look forward to doing my part to build upon this University's great reputation."

Mario Carrera

Assistant Director of Corrective Maintenance

Mario Carrera started as the new Assistant Director of Corrective Maintenance in June. Mario is a graduate and holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from the UH Downtown.

After graduation, Mario has accumulated 25 years of experience working in education, having worked in the surrounding Houston area school districts such as Katy ISD, Cypress Fairbanks ISD, Fort Bend ISD, and Stafford Municipal School District. During the course of his 25 year career, Mario has gained management experience in the fields of Maintenance, Operations, Transportation, as well as Energy Management. Some of the school districts that Mario has worked for have had student populations in excess of 100,000 and over 14 million square feet of building space spread over an 186 square mile area.



Jai Ranganath

Electrical Engineer

A licensed professional engineer in the state of Texas, he obtained his bachelor's degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Madras in India, and his Master's degree from Arizona State University.

Over the past 25 years, he has worked on a variety of the electrical infrastructure projects across the US and Latin America. Prior to joining UH, he was a facilities project engineer at Hewlett-Packard at its Houston campus. During that time, he gained a wealth of knowledge working on the design and construction of data centers, manufacturing lines, labs, and site electrical distribution systems.

Jai joined the University of Houston in June and looks forward to contributing to the success of the FPC team. He is here to support the PMs with project review and special request regarding electrical systems.



Cougar Casino



PC: Sharon Liu

University of Houston’s Minor In-House Construction (MIC), Student Centers, and Student Housing and Residential Life came together to create a new Cougar Casino front in preparation for the Frontier Fiesta. MIC team members Phil Beadles, Pete Wysocki, Zach Faulkner, and Martin Valles upgraded the booth by incorporating new lighting, stronger structural system, and a modular design for easy assembly or disassembly to replace the previous 10-year-old display.

Assistant Director of Student Centers Facilities and Operations Matthew Sebby stated the idea first started in March 2016. After 8 months of communication with Minor In-House Construction, the work order request was submitted to begin the project. After 600 hours of collaborative work, the project was ready to be assembled for the event.

“ Standing at 40 feet tall and 16 feet wide, the new structure is made of modular components; although massive when assembled, no piece is larger than 4 feet by 8 feet. ”

Storage and transportation from one year to the next is now easier because the smaller size pieces can be stacked onto pallets. Project Manager for Minor In-House Construction Longinos “Kino” Gutierrez lists the use of T1-111 siding, treated plywood, treated pine spindles, wooden studs, carriage bolts, and outdoor stain was implemented into this new design. In addition, Sebby wanted to “address the new safety regulations submitted by the Fire Marshal and Life Safety offices” with the new adjustments.

The Casino was open for attendees from March 24 through 26. The booth was utilized to provide an area to place a roulette table, deal blackjack, and provide Texas hold’em poker dealers. Sebby continues, “our volunteers will be acting as dealers and croupiers and will help teach the rules of the games so that they can be enjoyed by newcomers and virtuosos alike”. Within this newly upgraded casino, hourly door prizes were awarded and each night during Frontier Fiesta and a grand prize was received by one lucky winner. Content with the end result, Kino states “the stronger structure and optimized assembly system will allow for a long term, safe utilization of the casino front”. The UH Facilities MIC team is proud to have been a part of this successful project.

Auto Fleet Shop Model Example

The Auto Fleet Shop was toured by Abel Design Group, the architects hired by Rice University, to upgrade and help redesign their Auto Fleet Shop.

In January, a call was received by UH Facilities Communications to ask the location of the Auto Fleet Shop for the University. The simple answer was the General Services Building (GSB). The conversation continued with permission to tour the Auto Fleet Shop. After a few emails and calls back and forth with Auto Fleet Shop Manager Rocky Garcia, the tour date was set-up and the Rice representatives were able to get a first-hand look at the magnificent General Services Building with specific attention focused on the Auto Fleet Shop size and specification.

Most people on campus enter the front of the GSB only to pick up their key at the window and then return to the other side of Elgin. They also might enter the Printing and Postal door but never go beyond the first twenty feet of the building. The world of carts and trucks along with 500 crew members bustling around fulfilling work orders never enters their sight.

Abel Design Associate Kim Busch, UH 2008 Salutatorian who double majored in Architecture and Environmental Science, was blown away by the size of the General Services Building. Besides attending UH, Busch also worked on projects including ones in the Bauer Business College and the Blaffer Gallery so she had viewed almost every building on campus. Busch commented on the size of the GSB. "The scope is huge and you have no idea until you open the back door."

Design Senior Associate Celeste Williams, UH 1986 Co-valedictorian for Architecture, is also very familiar with the campus but had never been all the way through the General Services Building. Williams graduated from UH in 1981 with her Bachelor's and then earned her graduate degree in 1986. She has held a teaching assistant position and was an adjunct professor at the UH College of Architecture. Williams describes GSB as "the big, huge, magic machine that maintains the UH campus."

She continued to explain, "I was always aware that the large hangar across from the Hines College of Architecture had a vehicle maintenance division, but the closest I came to it was to visit Facilities Planning. I never had access to the area outside the back door so it was a big surprise."

"the big, huge, magic machine that maintains the UH campus."

Williams and Busch visited four other facilities and contacted 8 others in and around the Houston area and among other Texas cities but used UH Auto Fleet Shop as their primary example. They believed it was scalable to the size for Rice University's needs. After their tour, where Garcia took time to even show them the diesel pump and storage, they could not say enough about what they learned and the customer service that was given to them while they were here. "Everyone working in the fleet area was so welcoming and helpful in answering our questions," exclaimed Busch. Williams also stated that the most impressive part of the auto fleet area and their team was the enthusiasm for their jobs and high regard for quality service they perform every day. She noted the hard work that is done on a daily basis in that shop and Rocky's commitment. "Rocky is to be commended as a supervisor, who is empathetic to his crew since he came up through the ranks."

The final report from the Abel Design duo was presented to Rice University on Friday, March 3. The Rice steering committee will review the findings by the semester's end to determine funding and a timeline for their facility. The construction date has not been set yet.

UH Facilities Auto Fleet Shop is a crew of seven that services 450 carts and vehicles. The Fleet shop is ready and willing to help assist Abel Design and Rice University with any further research needed before, during and after their construction project.



Key Collaborators

With the knowledge that the College of Pharmacy would be moving in to the brand new Health and Biomedical Sciences Building II in July, Principal Project Manager Trent Williams and Assistant Project Manager Carolyn Taylor asked if Key Access Services would be willing to transport their operations to the facility in order to accommodate those moving into their new space. Supervisor of Key Access Services Roland Bourque agreed to transport their resources and staff a key pick-up table for half a day. With Key Access Services being available at the opening of the building, staff only needed to walk downstairs to pick up their keys instead of making a trip across campus to the General Services Building. With customer service being the priority of facilities business, this plan proved to be a great advance for future building openings.

This is the first time Facilities has tried something such as this. The success of this inaugural event all boiled down to having all of the keys ready and wireless connection for the iPad when checking the keys out. Initially a list was submitted with a total of 75 names on it. From those names, a total of 125 individual and sub-master key requests were processed. There were a total of 63 electronic submissions for individual keys with an additional 57 sub-master submissions which are all paper forms.



Because of the size of the building there were more sub-masters sent out than usual. Everything ran as smoothly as possible. Over 170 individual hard keys were distributed with 90% of them between 8:00am and 10:20am. The remaining keys were checked out by 11:40 am. Bourque comments on the capability for this process to occur. "The online process of submitting key requests makes it easier and more convenient to receive requests and cut them. The turn-around time has been diminished by two-thirds when compared to two years ago. The tablet made the difference in processing key pick-ups. If everything was to be put in manually it would take 2 to 3 days alone to do."

2017 Make Ready Progress



As soon as the spring semester ended in May, Facilities Services had a huge project of turning around 3,500 living spaces properly within only 19 days. This process ensures a quality living space for the next wave of residents by implementing necessary repairs, changes, and accommodations. These spaces were located within Cougar Place, Cougar Village 1, Cougar Village 2 and the North Tower of Moody. The previous process of make-ready completion involved only one skill-trades group completing all crafts. The original plan of make readies would not be efficient to meet the deadline at hand. The new process led with the idea of teamwork that incorporated a collaboration of multiple shops working together.

The major adjustment was the division of work by crafts which will have the electricians and plumbers walking each unit and completing their respective parts such as lighting, power issues, water leaks, and clogged drains. This leaves the one group of skill-trades completing general maintenance issues and painting, while custodial and final inspections were the last of the crews to complete the new process.

Implementation of this process worked three times as fast because general maintenance was no longer doing everything throughout the space. What previously took general maintenance one hour now only took 20 minutes because of the added support. The crews never overlapped each other while working allowing space for each team to complete their job. What also helped was that all parts, supplies, and paint were ordered ahead of time based on the items purchased in the previous year. This eliminated a much longer wait time.

There were several meetings every week planning for this new make ready process. It was an amazing team effort and many General Maintenance crew members stepped up to help fill supervisor type responsibilities during this project. General Maintenance Supervisor Jack Enoch's take on this process is that, "If we can all do this as a team, we can do things that might look impossible". With such great progress from this process it is expected that this new process will be used in the future.

The Front Line of FIX-IT



The FIX-IT Customer Service Center is FIX-IT's front line. This seven member team, receives and dispatches every Facility Services work request that is submitted. In 2016, there were over 84,000 work orders processed and this team processed every single item. The Fix-It "Call Center" is staffed 24-hours a day/7 days a week to ensure campus requests are received and input into the work order system. The Call Center also processes work orders for projects that take place on campus such as new buildings, construction, and moves and events. Supervisor Carla Tisby-Riggs advises her crew with these words from Lou Holtz, "Do right. Do your best. Treat others as you want to be treated."

Each worker handles an average of 50 requests in an eight-hour shift by receiving them through any of the 4 Ways to FIX-IT. These four ways include phone, text, email, or logging in through AccessUH and selecting the FIX-IT icon. Walk-ins are an occasional circumstance but do not happen often. The two most popular methods to submit service requests are through AccessUH and a good-old fashioned phone call.

After receiving the service requests, the Fix-It dispatchers verify the given information and move the request to a "workbench" or a task manager software system. Currently, UH Facilities uses FAMIS which is a computerized maintenance management software system (CMMS). Requests are input into the system within 24-hours and will receive a response as soon as possible. Part of the process is labeling the service request as a Push Through or a Non-Push Through. Push Through requests are taken care of immediately such as broken elevators, temperature control, or spills. Non-Push Through service requests include closet doors coming off the hinges or painting. The dispatchers are trained to know the difference between these two types of requests. They are also schooled on the

different UH Facilities Services crews and which one handles which type of work order. This is essential in knowing how to handle the response.

An important tip for customers wishing to place work order request in a smoothly running manner is having all information prepared and the most accurate location disclosed. Providing these five components speeds up the process. Name, Contact Information, Building/location, Room/area, and Description of the issue.

“ Do right. Do your best. Treat others as you want to be treated. ”

The Call Center crew is team-oriented and strives to be in sync with each other when handling service requests and work orders. At any given time, a service request can come in for the same issue and they must all know what has already been addressed.

Customer service is the number one priority for the workers. Each worker strives to know about resources on campus in order to be prepared to direct people to the proper place. Multiple times a day, calls come in that are not facilities related but leaving a customer without a next step is not an option. Christina Gilbert states, "We try to help as much as possible. If there's something we don't know we will go above and beyond to give the right information. We just want the customer happy."



Saved Tree Count



Central Plant Conserves Energy

The University of Houston Central Plant implemented the use of solar panels to reduce energy and power low-voltage equipment like receptacles, lights and computers after the upgrade to the Central Plant building was completed in 2012. There are currently 88 3ft x 4ft solar panels in total sitting atop the roof.

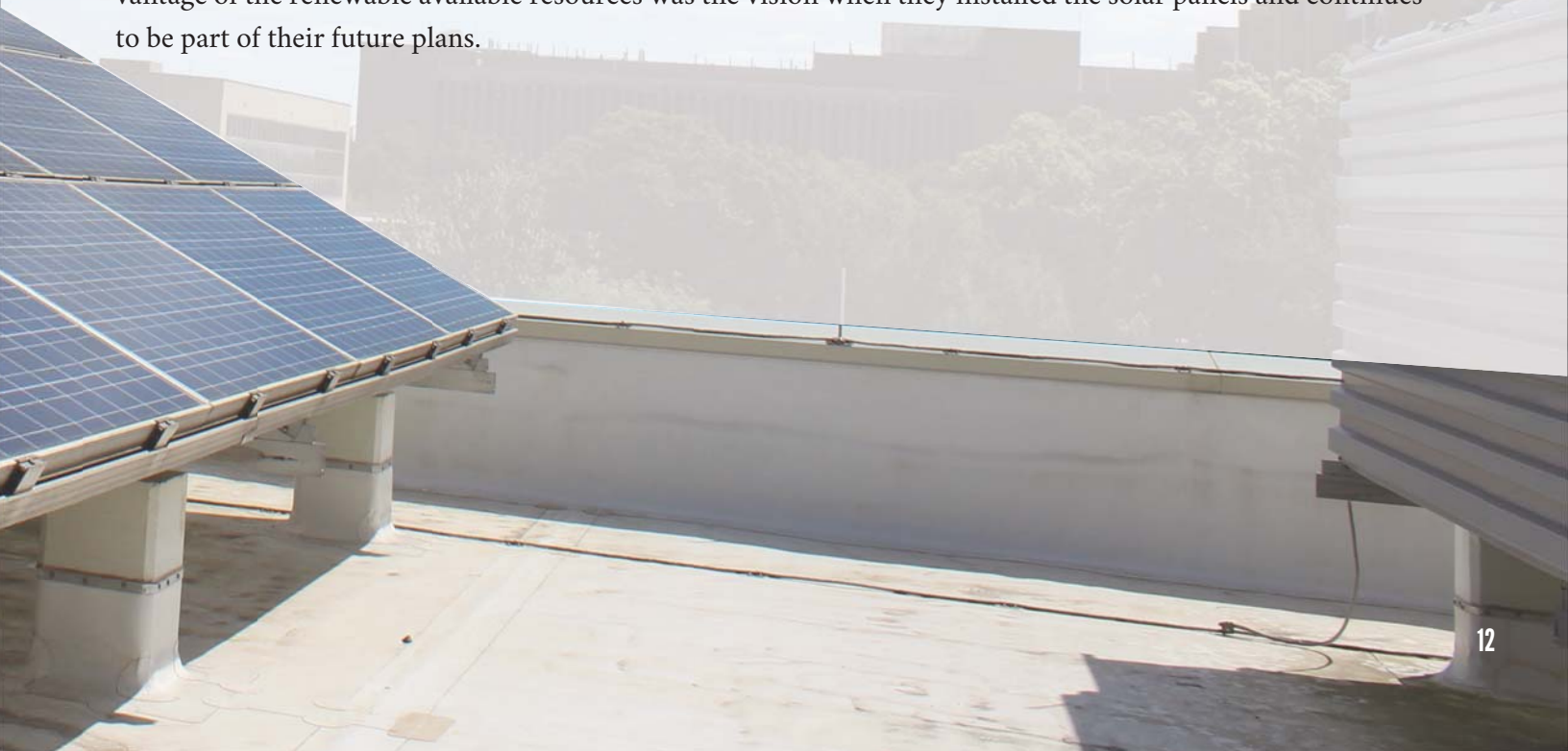
Since their initial installation, over half of the panels were noted as inoperable. Central Plant Electrician Randy Wagner collaborated with a repair company for over a year in order to get all 88 panels in working order. Although the original company that installed the panels is no longer in existence, Wagner worked with another company and they repaired the solar panels at no cost since they were still under warranty. Thanks to Wagner's persistence with this project, as of October 2016, all of the solar panels are up and running to their full potential.

Wagner knew the panels were not operating efficiently because the solar panels are connected to a reporting software called Enlighten. This program notifies the Central Plant electricians when there are issues with the panels along with other reports explaining the amount of energy and acres of trees saved each month. Over the last six months since the repair of the last panel, the reports obtained from Enlighten, show 228 trees from were saved by the use of the newly repaired panels.

The Central Plant consists of a twelve person crew with plans to continue to embark on other energy conservation projects. Sustainable projects on their list include plant optimization which entails a fully automated system controlled by computers which will run based on a "sweet spot" trigger response. This type of set-up would balance energy needed by each building and therefore be much more conservative of the earth's resources.

They have also been successful in the implementation of piping condensation from the air handling units from different buildings on campus. Every new building added will automatically have this feature in the scope of work during construction which means the Central Plant has less water needed to make-up for evaporation from the cooling towers.

Another lofty goal is to use the draft from the tower water to power a wind generator. Taking full advantage of the renewable available resources was the vision when they installed the solar panels and continues to be part of their future plans.





Rolling in a New Roll-Off Truck

UH Facilities received a new garbage roll-off truck in May 2017. From the time it was decided, to the time it arrived was about two months. This new addition is stronger, more power efficient, and more stable than the preceding roll-off which is currently being repaired. With this new truck being more durable, it is able to handle the extensive weight of compactors and bins that are used for the disposal of trash throughout the campus.

There are 7 compactors on campus located at Garrison, Student Center Satellite, Moody Towers, Cougar Woods, Bayou Oaks and two at the Student Center (one for cardboard and one for trash). Compactors can weigh up to 64,000 lbs with the heaviest being located at the Student Center. Solid Waste and Recycling Supervisor Thomas Goosby keeps a close eye on the bins to ensure all are emptied as needed. Bins can be emptied as often as once a week at residence halls such as University Lofts and Moody Towers.

“As the school continues to grow with more students there is more of a need,” for compactors.”

The peak increase for garbage disposal is during Move-In and Move-out time as well as major events such as Frontier Fiesta, Homecoming and special charitable walks. Having another truck in place removes the need for subcontracting during those peak points when bins fill more frequently and are in higher demand. As the school continues to grow with more students there is more of a need for compactors. For Frontier Fiesta 2016 there was only a need for 4 dumpsters but this need doubled to 8 dumpsters in 2017.



The Solid Waste and Recycling Crew consists of 8 hard working team members. Dwight Wilkins, who is one of the proud drivers of the new addition, has been on the team for 2 years. He is excited to have a more reliable truck to help him with the tasks at hand. When training Solid Waste team members, they typically start with the smaller recycle trucks. They are then allowed to learn the roll-off truck mechanics and then get to experience the front-loader.



Bike Rack Spring Cleaning

The University of Houston Facilities Services along with the University of Houston Police Department continue to clean up the bicycle racks in order to maintain an adequate number of bicycle parking spaces on campus and furthermore maintain the overall aesthetics of our campus. In fall 2016, a total of 275 bikes were picked up.

Bicycles and other items secured to bicycle racks or other objects on campus, that are abandoned, or appear to be abandoned, will be tagged (with a colored tag). Tagging will begin in mid-April, with a collection scheduled May 11, 2017 extending until all tagged items are removed. Collected items will be impounded and will be stored at the University of Houston Police Department.

Facilities Services and UH Police Department is not responsible for the cost of locks, chains, other security devices, or any other item that may be damaged or destroyed as a result of removing any items and neither department have responsibility or liability to replace or make compensation for such items.



All bikes will be impounded and stored at UHPD and stored for a minimum of 30 days, then at the discretion of UHPD donated or disposed. Before releasing an impounded bicycle, the prospective owner will be required to provide proof of ownership and to register your bicycle with the University of Houston Police Department prior to be released.

If you have any questions about the bicycle abatement initiative you may contact Facilities Manager Craig Whitfield before removal or the after removal the Records Division at the UHPD (713-743-3333).

New UH20 Station Installed



A new UH20 water station has been installed in the Clinical Research Services Center to keep up with the growing need of water fountains in buildings on campus. UH Facilities encourages everyone to stay hydrated this summer with temperatures reaching over 100 degrees outside.

UH Facilities is responsible for all UH20 installations and maintenance. If there is a unit that needs a filter changed or is not working properly, this should be reported to the FIX-IT Customer Call Center (uh.edu/fixit).

Each unit has a unique identification number that can be found on the front. This gives the UH Facilities crews the building number and floor where the UH20 station is located. Providing this service to everyone on campus helps with the sustainable efforts on campus by lessening the amount of disposable water bottles used. It allows students, faculty and staff to access double-filtered water.

The UH20 water station map has been updated to include the new Clinical Research Service location. Stay hydrated!

Continued Advancement of Campus Wayfinding Signage



PC: Destinie Holiday

Wayfinding

Signs were developed by the designLab team as a campus-wide directional program that makes it easier to find specific locations on campus. Currently the campus is arranged into eight districts for the development of signage.

The districts are listed as Arts, Athletics, Biomedical, Central, Cullen North, Energy, Professional, and Residential. These districts incorporate exterior signage of various types for vehicle arrival, campus entries, pedestrians, campus directories, building identification, hike/bike trails, and parking lot identification. In addition, there is work currently taking place that integrates public art signage and donor recognition signage within the same aesthetic family.

Implementation of the Wayfinding Signage started with the pilot installments of the perimeter vehicle arrival signs and those of Arts District. Subsequently, the TDECU Stadium and the surrounding Athletics District, along with the campus entries signs, have all been implemented with some being installed within the next few months. The Professional District will be implemented next with the remaining districts to follow.

During the implementation process each district is reviewed thoroughly for the signage needs. The existing signs of all types are first mapped by facilities for their existing location and existing content. Then careful consideration is given for conversion to the new wayfinding signage. From this process, a first draft of the district signage is generated and then shared with the stakeholders in that district for recommendations and updates. The process of revision and vetting with stakeholders moves through several iterations to achieve the best possible balance in response to the needs of all concerned. The outcome is usually a mix of replacing existing signs with new ones in existing locations, replacing existing signs with new ones in adjusted locations, adding new signs in new locations, and in a few cases, removing redundant existing signs without replacements.

Project Manager Kimberly Burks did not receive this project from its inception but is fully engrossed in it now and stays on top of each moving part. Burks mentions how B Signs weren't done by district but campus wide.

"The B's are very important. They are directional and also note the parking lots."

The Houston Football Locker Room project started during the spring semester of 2016 and was completed by August 2016. The driving force of the upgrade was to enhance the student-athlete experience and provide Houston Athletics with facilities competitive to those of their rivals.

Lockers were upgraded and widened to accommodate the players' size and provide a home during the season. The HVAC system was upgraded and new flooring was installed in addition to dynamic lighting, sound systems and a hi-definition video wall. Modernized bathroom facilities included glass partitions etched with UH logos separating the locker room from the shower. To motivate current players, NFL logos representing Houston alums, were added to the interiors of the locker room. These logos show the pride of UH has reached the game's highest current players.

Multiple alumni worked with Facilities in order to complete this project. Because of their interest, many of them provided funding for numerous pieces of equipment needed. "We tried to utilize the resources provided by the Alumni Association in the best possible way and we want to thank them for their constant support. It's amazing what a group of dedicated individuals can do if everyone's heart is in it" says Project Manager David MacLeod. The locker room turned-out to be better than imagined and Facilities is happy to continue to support the UH athletic program.

Facilities Construction Project Manager David MacLeod supervised this endeavor. MacLeod became a project manager in 2000 and started at UH in 2013. He is originally from Houston, Texas and after his time in the military, he attended Sam Houston State University. When he is not working at UH, MacLeod enjoys writing, playing piano and guitar, being a dad and caring for his chickens.

When asked what he enjoys most about his job at UH, he explained that he loves working with a team and gets satisfaction by contributing to projects that increase enjoyment and appreciation of the space. He stated, "When working a difficult project, I find myself thinking, - if we succeed, it will be a team win and if we fail it will be a team failure. No one does this job alone."

Football Locker Room Project





PC: Destinie Holiday

Fun Fact:
We have 27,672
doors in our work
order system

Exterior Key Core Changes

To enhance and increase campus safety, UH Facilities and UH Campus Safety will re-commence the change out of exterior door key cores across campus throughout the summer. Card readers have been installed at most buildings on specific doors so that authorized Cougar Card holders will have after-hours access to their buildings. This shift from exterior key access to Cougar Card access will take place only for outside entrances into buildings that have received Card Readers.

Building users currently using exterior keys should understand that these keys will be obsolete once the cores have been changed, and that they should return them to Key Control. Everyone is encouraged to make sure they have the necessary access programmed on their Cougar Card before their building is scheduled to be changed. A schedule has been posted and will be updated as necessary. For information on how to confirm Cougar Card access, contact the Building Coordinator. Please be reminded that it is MAPP Policy that all active members of the University of Houston community are required to have a Cougar Card as identification.

Exterior key core changes will not impact building occupants with current after-hours access via a card reader.

For questions, please email Facilities Communications who will then send this to the team working on this project. For additional information and the most up-to-date information, please see the Exterior Key Core Changes website page.

Out with the Old, In with the New

Energy Research Park (ERP) is located within a mile of the UH campus that spans over 74-acres. ERP has 692,000 square feet of office space and industrial park that is currently occupied by offices, warehouses, laboratories and classrooms.

One of the many construction projects at ERP includes a renovation of building 9B. The Cullen College of Engineering (CCoE), Department of Petroleum Engineering is ready to accommodate the mass enrollment of students with an expansion to ERP. This project will entail two new teaching labs, a 50-seat computer lab, a 254-seat auditorium, and a 70 seat classroom. This space will also include new faculty offices and spaces available for graduate students. With the intent to hire more faculty, this advancement allows undergraduate students work in an expanded environment.

This project includes a demolition of the existing 9B building which is scheduled to happen this summer. 9B is currently a wood structure facility attached to 9A. Utilities supporting both sections of the building will be rerouted. Originally an electrical shop, 9B is a 24,700 square feet, 1 story structure. An accomplishment for this project was the ability to reuse the existing foundation, which was a significant hurdle at the start of the project. The objective is to leave as much undisturbed soil as possible. Once construction is complete, 9B will connect seamlessly to 9A and be referred to as Building 9.

This project is not predicted to impact parking for faculty, staff and students. Occasionally there will be closed sections of the roads that will be communicated through UH Facilities Outage/Construction Notifications.

UH Facilities Construction Project Manager Margarita Arevalo is overseeing this construction project. She is coordinating these efforts with the project team, which includes architects, engineers, and contractors, as well as the Department of Petroleum Engineering, Transwestern and the Office of Real Estate Services. She is excited to work on this project because she sees it as an opportunity to showcase the resources ERP has available.



Faculty Café

UH announced the much anticipated opening of the Faculty Café earlier this year with the progressive efforts of UH Facilities. The Faculty Café is far from an ordinary break room. With a clean, sleek, modern design, the café offers a comfortable environment with bar style seating options and vast assortments of coffee.

According to Provost Paula Myrick Short, it was important to have a space for faculty to “collaborate and innovate.” The idea for a faculty café originated with Provost Short through a retreat she attended with members of the Faculty Senate and the Center for ADVANCING UH Faculty Success approximately two years ago. The idea to develop a shared faculty space was part of the grant submitted by ADVANCE to NSF.

The Faculty Café was designed as a “collision space”, a place where faculty members could interact in an informal setting for both professional and personal interaction and encourage a sense of “esprit de corps.” Also, the space was intentionally designed to provide a working environment for emeriti faculty on campus. The goal was to keep emeriti faculty engaged with both current faculty and the University, and offer current faculty the opportunity to utilize the emeriti faculty as a unique resource. The basement was originally set up to operate as an office with cubicle spaces but construction really started to take shape after the walls were removed. Once the space opened up, there was a sense of what it would actually look like. The addition of the red and white striped wall was a finalizing touch that really made the vision come to life.

The current feedback on the Faculty Café space has been extremely positive with descriptive words including “beautiful,” “calming,” and “perfect.” While sign-in is not required, it is encouraged, and the café has seen more than 400 unique visitors since its opening to the public on January 27, 2017. Organic faculty groups such as writing-based groups, reading groups, and diversity-based groups have utilized the space. Senior Project Manager Kimberly Burks played a key role in keeping this project moving along. Burks mentions how the project team was able to overcome several hurdles that often occur during renovations inside occupied buildings. Despite these hurdles, the project conveyed the vision the Office of the Provost desired for faculty to collaborate and foster relationships. She states, “One of my favorite finishes in the space is the Hufcor Glass Wall. The five panel glass wall system has added an element of unique room separation, while maintaining an openness.”

UH Facilities is proud to be a part of another enhancement for the University.

“Ms. Penny was very nice to me and a colleague who both went in to get keys, she even offered us a bottle of water and worked very promptly with a great attitude.”

- Samantha Ary,
Mgr, Program 1

“Even with their usual heavy workload, Chris and his crew worked miracles on short notice (over the holidays no less!) to get us up and running on time. We are truly grateful for the UH Electric Shop”

- Eternally Grateful Customer

Facilities Receives Feedback

During the crazy, busy time of check-in, David Simmons and Clara Winfree went beyond to make sure that our building was ready and in good shape for new student move-in. Thank you so much for having such helpful employees that are so willing to do whatever is needed to help students get moved into the building. Kudos to both of these employees, they are the pride.

- Connie M. Blackmon,
Desk Services Supervisor, Moody Towers

“Bill Allen, Just a quick thank you for all the hardwork you and your crew has put in over the last several months. I’m sure this is no easy task when it’s 43 degrees in the morning and 78 degrees in the afternoon. Thank You again, keep up the great work.”

- Glenn D Booker,
User Services Spec 1

“I found the adjustment of office temperature was done so quick and so perfect! I want to express my sincere thanks to the technician, Steve Longoria, for his perfect job and great help! “

- Liming Li,
Assistant Professor, Physics

“Just wanted to say that Feddel White showed such great care with my HVAC work request last month. He even came back a few days after making the HVAC adjustment to make sure I was still ok. That was a new experience for me and it was awesome!”

- Christa Rieck,
Interim Director, Facilities Planning



Emmanuella Aina

Major: Media Studies/Media Policy

Graduation Date: Spring 2019

Favorite memory working for Facilities: Early mornings at the new student orientation during the summer, and our team bonding at McAlisters.

When I'm not working I am...: Volunteering at church or in the community. Other times I'm studying and exploring Houston with my camera.

Plans for after graduation: I plan on traveling around the world to learn about cultures and help people. I plan to own a freelance broadcast station.



Destinie Holiday

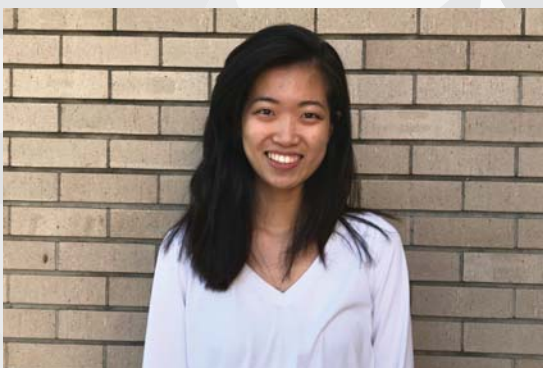
Major: Broadcast Journalism

Graduation Date: Fall 2018

Favorite memory working for Facilities: My favorite memory is interacting with the staff to create articles.

When I'm not working I am...: Doing some form of broadcasting such as radio, UH news, or even Acting.

Plans for after graduation: Landing a job with a Houston radio station or news station.



Sharon Liu

Major: Corporate Communication & Supply Chain Management

Graduation Date: Spring 2019

Favorite memory working for Facilities: Building friendships with the other Communications Students has been great.

When I'm not working I am...: Working on student organization duties or studying. Sometimes even painting or reading if I'm lucky!

Plans for after graduation: Become a procurement director for a major company!



Kanagavel Ravindran

Major: Information Systems Security

Graduation Date: Spring 2018

Favorite memory working for Facilities: Most favorite one would be the Friday weekly meetings when we all get to meet together and discuss!

When I'm not working I am...: I usually play Volleyball which has been my past time for years now and have started Console Gaming lately.

Plans for after graduation: Plan to put my Cyber Security skills to use wherever necessary, and to provide with a secure computing environment.



Michele Totoy

Major: Architecture

Graduation Date: Spring 2020

Favorite memory working for Facilities: My favorite memory is whenever I drove the cart for the first time.

When I'm not working I am...: usually working on my project for architecture in my studio.

Plans for after graduation: I would like to go to graduate school and get a masters in landscape architecture or urban planning.

Facilities Editorial Staff

Jacque Vargas,
Assistant Director of Customer Service

Jennifer Rea,
Facilities Communications Coordinator

Facilities Communications Students:

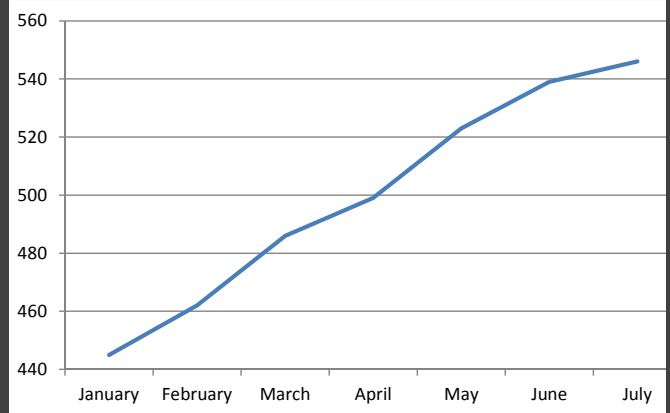
- Emmanuella Aina
- Destinie Holiday
- Sharon Liu
- Kanagavel Ravindran
- Michele Totoy

Cover photo & Design by:
Sharon Liu

Approved by UH Branding: 11/10/17



Twitter Followers for Spring 2017



Over the past semester, we have gained many followers on Facebook, Twitter, and Snapchat! Thank you for your support.

Love our Landmark



We are extremely delighted the fountain has once again become a gathering place on campus. Please help maintain its beauty by respecting it.

#loveourlandmark.



Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Snapchat for updates! @UHFacilities
www.uh.edu/facilities



UNIVERSITY of HOUSTON

FACILITIES/CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT