Facilities Forum

Georgia Southern University Facilities Services

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As another outstanding academic year ends, I am reminded of Charles Dickens’ quote in The Tale of Two Cities, “it was the best of times; it was the worst of times”. To the University the best of times is the culmination of our graduate students and seniors obtaining their degrees; and the worst of times is the Eagle Nation losing some of our best and brightest nursing students in a horrific accident. Our prayers are to those grieving families and friends; and our congratulations are to the graduates.
At our great university, the peak of the academic year is Commencement Week, a set of events which showcases the incredible depth and breadth of Facilities Services. Our employees worked around the clock to support all commencement events during the week, which included the convergence of over 20,000 people on campus during the main University Commencement at Paulson Stadium. Now as we enter the summer months and the reduced campus population enables our summer construction activities to kick into high gear, I want to take a moment to say a heartfelt thank you and applaud the entire Facilities Services organization on another outstanding academic year.

On May 11th, Facilities welcomed Kelly E. Close as the new Director of Environmental Health and Safety. Kelly transferred to Georgia Southern University with 10 years of environmental health and safety experience from Georgia Regents University. Kelly is a Certified Industrial Hygienist, Certified Safety Professional, has a B.S. in Environmental Health Science and is working towards a Master of Public Health in Environmental Health. Kelly’s responsibilities include the collegial and proactive response to environmental health and safety issues at all Georgia Southern campuses. Look for Kelly to visit your unit in the next few months!

Marv
Marvin D. Mills, Jr.
Associate Vice President for Facilities
Facilities Planning, Design & Construction

Bicycle Parking Facility at Paulson Stadium

The new bicycle parking facility at Paulson Stadium is funded by a sustainability grant awarded by the Center for Sustainability and implemented by Facilities Planning Design and Construction. The $33,400 project has the capacity to park 50 bicycles, allowing bicycle commuters to park their bikes at the Stadium and use the campus bus system to commute on campus. The facility also includes a bicycle repair station, providing standard bicycle repairs tools and an air pump for on the spot repairs. A bicycle repair station was also installed at the existing bicycle parking facility at the Union bus stop.

Sweetheart Circle Pedestrian Island

One of the most popular spots on campus for taking photographs is the GSU
hedges on Sweetheart Circle. In recognizing the dangers this poses to our students, parents, faculty, staff and campus visitors, Facilities funded this project to provide a protected pedestrian crosswalk at the intersection of Southern Drive at Sweetheart Circle. Raised islands and campus cobblestone pavers will define and protect pedestrians. Speed bumps will also be incorporated to help slow traffic at the intersection and inform drivers of the crosswalk. The total project cost is $46,920 and the local contractor is Tim Lanier Construction, LLC.

Pictured above is a conceptual drawing of the Sweetheart Circle Pedestrian Island and Tim Lanier, of Tim Lanier Construction, LLC.

**Military Science**

In 2013 the Board of Regents approved a new two story Military Science building to replace the existing temporary structure. The new facility will be located on the corner of Old Register Road and Forest Drive, adjacent to Hwy 301 and details of the project are listed below:

- Brasfield & Gorrie, Construction Manager.
- Total project budget is $9,500,000
- 32,000 square feet building
- 10 month construction project will begin January 2016
Fire Hydrant Makeover

Phase one of a multi-phased campus fire hydrant painting project has been completed. Sixteen hydrants on Sweetheart Circle, Forest Drive, and Herty Drive were selected for phase one. The hydrants were sandblasted to the bare metal, primed and repainted by Josh Martin, owner of South Pro Drywall and Painting. Hydrants were colored in accordance to NFPA recommendations to aid arriving firefighters in determining how much water is available. The bodies and
barrels were painted to improve visibility while the nozzle caps and tops were painted to indicate GPM (gallons per minute). The fire hydrant project is a collaboration of Facilities Services Painting, Plumbing, and Planning Design and Construction departments. Please look for phase two to begin soon.

Decaying Pecan Tree Removal

Landscape Services recently removed a decaying pecan tree located by the University Store. Pruned to remove decayed limbs about 4 years ago, the decay spread and further pruning was not feasible. The tree was safely removed to prevent it from falling apart. As a rule of thumb, three trees are planted for every tree removed on campus.

Pictured below: Kenneth "Craig" Black, Groundskeeper
Safety Week Training

- Facilities partnered with Hendrix Fire Protection for hands-on-training on fire extinguisher use. Over 100 employees attended training.
- 45 employees attended Hand Tool Training by Dewalt-Stanley and organized by David Cork with MSC.
- A total of 60 employees attended Forklift and Ariel lift certification which was
arranged by Terry Hart and Chris Killgo from Structural Services.

- 40% of Facilities staff attended DOAS Driver Safety.

Top left: Greg Williams (Brick Mason), and Phillip Smith (Groundskeeper), Top Right: Chris Killgo (Graphics Design Supervisor) Middle: Amy Wilkins-Smith
Environmental Health & Safety

Campus Garden

If you find yourself walking along the path between the Herty Building and the Williams Center you may notice some unique landscaping underway. This summer, a campus garden is under construction thanks to a partnership between Facilities Services, the Center for Sustainability, and Eagle Dining Services. The Campus Garden will allow students to sample fresh local produce and also discover how fruits and vegetables can be sustainably grown. Student volunteers, guided by the Center for Sustainability, are constructing the infrastructure and maintaining the garden with materials and space provided by Facilities Services. Volunteers will receive a portion of the harvest, with the remaining being served to the university community in the dining halls and at catered events. This is an excellent opportunity for the university to promote sustainable practices, beautify our campus, and receive tasty rewards in the process!

Students pictured above from Left to Right: Scott Blair, Masters in Public Administration Program, Maggie Fritze, Biology major with a Concentration in Environmental Sustainability, and Nina Becton, International Studies major with a
Creating a Safety Culture

Business Operations

Congratulations Mr. Gray!
Douglas Gray has been with GSU for 14 years!! As he retires, he plans to relax, travel to visit family, do yardwork, have backyard BBQs, and have guests over. One of his fondest memories of GSU was the people he worked with. Douglas states: “they are like a family with looking after each other.”
From Left to Right: Chris Hawkins (Groundskeeper), Nicholas Martin (Groundskeeper), Chris Fry (Groundskeeper), Kelly Close (Director of Environmental Health & Safety)
Not pictured: Alston Glisson (Locksmith), James Ashley (Custodian), Anthony Sea (Custodian), Jaeman Park (Custodian), Loretta Hobbs (Custodian), Glenn Wilson (Groundskeeper), Amanda Parrish (Groundskeeper), Kenneth Denson (Groundskeeper), Justin Miller (Groundskeeper), William Gusby (Groundskeeper), Kyle Hackle (Groundskeeper)