Fall has arrived and with the holidays just around the corner, it was great to see so many of you for our Holiday Pie gathering.

While Facilities’ efforts continue to revolve around the Plan for Academic Enrichment (PAE), our day-to-day work takes us in many directions, all in support of the PAE initiatives. This edition of Facilities News highlights some of the many projects, activities, and efforts that involve Facilities’ staff from parking to Parents’ Weekend and gives a glimpse at the awards bestowed upon the University for the Susan P. & Richard A. Friedman Study Center project and the University’s efforts to conserve energy.

As your work takes you from one corner of the campus to another most days, many of you notice things that should be repaired, replaced, and/or even questioned, as was the case shortly after school opening with Custodian Frank Almeida. Frank noticed what could have become a serious issue with steel corroding on the underside of the ramp at the Graduate Center. With the safety of others in mind, he not only reported the issue but he supported his claim that there was an issue with photographs. Remember, if something stands out as not being right to you, take the time to question it and report it.

As always, I thank you for all your dedication and hard work. I wish you and your families a safe, happy and healthy holiday season. Remember, don’t forget to join me for our Annual Holiday Breakfast on December 14th!

Sincerely,

Vice President
Facilities Management
EMERGING PARKING PLANS

With the planned loss of parking spaces in the athletic center lots off Hope Street and the increasing size of the Brown community, we need to take strategic action to stay on top of parking and transportation issues on campus.

The emerging parking plan requires a coordination of efforts on multiple fronts: work to reduce parking demand, carefully manage and maintain off-street parking, and work to implement appropriate management of on-street parking.

Although most of us are accustomed to commuting to campus in our cars, decreasing the number of people who drive to campus is an essential component of our strategy. Brown has been working hard to develop and encourage alternative means of transportation including: carpooling, biking, Zip car, the Guaranteed Ride Home, and rental agreements with Enterprise.

To find out more about the alternative means of transportation listed above, please visit the Transportation Office web site: www.brown.edu/Administration/Finance_and_Admin/transportation/.

Strategies under consideration for management of off-street parking lots include: a modest increase to parking rates for faculty, students and staff; elimination of parking permits for freshman and sophomores; and off campus bussing for construction workers.

In November 2006, the College Hill Parking Task Force was formed, in part, to develop recommendations to the City for On-Street Parking. The group includes representatives from the College Hill institutions, neighborhood groups, Thayer Street District Management Association, the City and Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

The preliminary findings of the Task Force include the following: first, there is a fairly close match between the number of on-street spaces and the total demand in the College Hill area. Second, significant traffic is generated by cars searching for parking spaces, in part caused by the mismatch between parking regulations and demand. Third, free on-street parking is counter to efforts to reduce demand. Recommendations are in the process of being finalized for a presentation to the City.

By refining and following through on the strategies outlined above, we can better manage parking and transportation issues on campus.

BEHIND THE EVENT - PARENTS’ WEEKEND 2007

It’s October and that can only mean one thing at Brown: Parents’ Weekend. The Events team, lead by Deb Lister, Manager of Events Support, has been in full swing over the past few months preparing for this year’s event, which was held October 25-27. With over 3,000 people on campus, 50 dedicated Facilities Management staff worked around the clock to ensure the event was a success.

Most visitors to Parents’ Weekend only see the flawless finish but there are so many little planning details that often go unnoticed. With over 110 events on campus in over 25 buildings, the team was on call all weekend making sure every customer was happy. “The staff scheduled all setups and breakdowns including sound equipment, tables, chairs, and tents” said Lister. “They were also a visible presence on campus to ensure that the entire weekend ran smoothly. The trades and custodial staff make Parents’ Weekend happen. They do an amazing job.”

Now that the weekend is over, can the events team breathe a sigh of relief? “We’re looking forward to Commencement,” says Lister. “And we’ve already started planning next year’s Parents’ Weekend.” Mark your calendars.

“The trades and custodial staff make Parents’ Weekend happen. They do an amazing job.”
FROM TRASH TO TREASURE- FURNITURE RECYCLING WORKS!

Looking for a new mahogany desk or maybe a slightly used USPS mail box? The Surplus Program at Brown has become a great success story for the University. Since the program began in the fall of 2006, over 1,400 items have been donated to the City of Providence, the school department and affiliated non-profit organizations. Internally, there have been requests from over sixty departments, resulting in fulfilling half of these requests.

Recent department moves from Butler to South Main Street resulted in eight trailer trucks of furniture being donated to the City of Providence.

Should you be interested in furnishing your project with recycled furniture, go to Park Lane, select items, arrange for delivery, and you own it.

Or, as some of our thrifty Project Managers have done, place furniture with new owners before it ever leaves campus. This saves on a delivery charge.

As for the mail box, you are too late; the Theatre Department is now using it as a prop.

NEW CAMPUS MAP AT FAUNCE ARCH

The axonometric campus map that has hung in Faunce arch is being replaced. With all the recent changes to the face of our campus, the map was no longer an accurate guide.

This summer, Facilities’ CAD team designed an up-to-date replacement. The graphics and directory listing are meant to harmonize with new building signage hung this fall.

At the end of summer, a temporary map was installed for feedback. All comments have been incorporated and after final color samples are approved, the final map will be produced. In addition to the Faunce Arch map, there will be a smaller one installed in Wayland Arch.

The CAD team is working with the University’s Graphics Services department to use this map as the University “welcome map”, a tri-fold hand-out given to new and prospective members of the Brown community. This will reinforce the idea of continuity in our graphic language around campus.

KUDOS - FRIEDMAN STUDY CENTER

On Friday, October 26th, Rhode Island Monthly recognized Brown University for the renovation of the Susan P. & Richard A. Friedman Study Center in the Sciences Library with High Marks Gold in the commercial construction/renovation category and Trend Setter Gold in the commercial interior design category. The judges were “bowled over” by the “intensity of thought.”

The project scope included moving approximately 100,000 books from the Sciences Library to the Library Annex at 10 Park Lane to allow the bottom three levels to be captured as a student study center. Level A was dedicated almost entirely to collaborative and individual study spaces with gateway services. The ground floor has a new café extending out onto the south terrace with the mezzanine remaining as additional quiet study space. New finishes, furniture, and technology transformed the appearance and functionality of the space. In addition to the new fire alarm system installed throughout the building and command center, fire protection was installed within the Study Center, and the project incorporated a facility renewal upgrade to the HVAC system and waterproofing repair at the south terrace.
ON CALL MECHANICS STEP UP TO THE CHALLENGE

Although most of us go home by 5:00 PM, the University is very much a “24/7”, 365 days/year operation. For many in Facilities Management Operations, workload volume is directly related to the presence of our student population.

There is another aspect to Facilities Management that often goes unnoticed, until there is a problem. Operating 24 hours/day, 365 days/year are mechanical systems critical to research, animal care, libraries and data centers. Should a problem occur after normal working hours with any of these 100+ systems, immediate action must be taken.

For the past three years, a dedicated group of (9) highly skilled mechanics from Divisions 8, (HVAC), 9 (Controls) and 10 (Second Shift), have served on-call after midnight on a rotating basis. The on-call service begins after midnight since we have a second shift to cover the campus until then. Each individual “rotation” lasts (5) days, which includes all weekends and holidays.

Critical alarms are sent automatically via computer to the Johnson Controls Remote Operations Center in Milwaukee, Wisconsin with a back-up alarm sent to the Brown Central Heat Plant. The on-call mechanic is contacted via a designated phone line and the mechanic is on campus within one hour. They are often awakened in the very early morning hours but are required to quickly solve highly technical problems with complex mechanical systems.

The dedication and skill of these mechanics has served the Brown community well. With the size and technical complexity of the campus continuously increasing, their responsibility and value to the community will continue to increase as well.

In addition to the on call mechanics, many other Facilities’ staff members contribute to campus operations beyond their typical work day. This includes custodians, trades, and grounds employees who work overtime and respond to call back requests to ensure seamless continuity of service.

LOOKING BACK - REMARKS FROM ALAN BLIEK ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM BROWN

As I approach my retirement from the University, I look back to when I started working here as a draftsman in the Office of Physical Planning, nearly thirty years ago. At that time it was easy to describe Brown’s main campus as covering an area of about thirty-five city blocks. Although in general terms this is quite a large area, we certainly did not own all of the property within those blocks, and still don’t today. And of course, there were also those properties which did not fit within that 35-block area such as the Aldrich-Dexter Field, Ladd Observatory or the stadium and Marvel Gym or the land down off Butler Avenue.

Since 1978, Brown has bought and sold, and in some cases bought back again, many more parcels of land; now the main campus stretches across nearly 60 city blocks, not to mention properties recently acquired in the Jewelry District.

During my tenure, the number of buildings operated by Brown has always tended to hover around the magic number of 250. Although from one minute to the next, one was never exactly sure and it depended upon which buildings may or may not be considered eligible to be included in that count such as rental units or sheds and garages.

Shortly before my coming to Brown, several properties that had once been Bryant College’s campus on the east side had been purchased, and those buildings were still in the phase-in process. Orwig Music building (then called South Hall) was in the process of a complete makeover. As I walked through the building for the first time, I wondered how all of the demolition would be put back together again. I’d never witnessed such a gutting process of an old structure.

The John Hay Library was also undergoing renovation, and it was on a tour of this building that I first discovered a new found fear of heights as I peered down the new elevator shaft from the top floor. Since then, I’ve managed to stay off of most sloped roofs and flat roofs without parapets.
Since the update this summer on the Continuous Improvement Plan, progress has been made in addressing the recommendations of the consultant’s positioning study. Many projects have been completed and others are now underway.

First, the recommendation that suggestion boxes be installed for our employees in key locations throughout the campus has been completed. Nearly 50 suggestions have been received and many were acted upon. For example, at the request of several employees, a new shower bench was installed in the first floor shower room. Also, a process has begun to provide nameplates outside all cubicles. Many other suggestions will be implemented over the next few months.

Notable progress has been made in staffing the teams that are addressing key issues and major recommendations resulting from the positioning study.

Client Service: A working group and a focus group have been selected. Regular meetings are underway with the objective being the establishment of a close partnership with University departments to improve services and achieve greater satisfaction among customers.

FAMIS: A FAMIS team has been meeting to review inventory control, key control, capital projects and utility management programs. In January, FAMIS representatives will be on site to provide project management services.

Sold Service: The Sold Service team has been holding regular meetings to identify core issues relating to providing accurate and firm estimates to customers and reviewing the facility service fee questions.

Zone Maintenance: The concept of providing zone maintenance coverage to University departments is being reviewed by a working group of five and a focus group of four selected from our operations divisions. The principal goals include promoting more person-to-person interaction and an improved personalized approach.

Training: The Facilities’ HR office is identifying job competencies for every position. Supervisors, managers and directors will be contacted by the Training Team to provide feedback on the qualifications required for each position. Many job descriptions will require editing and updating.

Events: Separate teams will be formed to address three key event priorities: interdepartmental functions; awards and recognition programs based on performance; and social activities.

**University Receives Excellence in Energy Efficiency Award as National Grid Celebrates 20 Years Of Success In Energy Efficiency, Environmental Protection.**

The University was honored for participation in National Grid’s demand side management energy-efficiency programs and acknowledged for its excellence in energy efficiency achievements over the past fifteen years. The event, held on October 16th at the Rhode Island Statehouse, marked the 20th anniversary of National Grid’s nationally recognized, award-winning energy-efficiency programs.

It was noted that the University’s efforts have saved the University approximately $1.5 million annually in energy costs. That’s a savings of 14.4 million kilowatt hours each year; while reducing emissions by nearly 8 tons annually. “Today we are honoring customers who have demonstrated a leadership role in energy efficiency and have raised awareness of greenhouse gas emissions and the threat they pose to our environment. With them, we have been able to prove that energy efficiency works and should be a priority for all of our customers,” said Michael F. Ryan, president for National Grid Distribution in Rhode Island.
Brown University is committed to making its facilities accessible and usable to the mobility, visually and hearing impaired. It is Facilities’ responsibility to ensure all new construction and renovations are designed and executed in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The ADA is a federal law and local building officials do not have the ability to offer a variance on ADA matters.

When we do not meet the minimum requirements of the ADA, it makes it difficult or potentially dangerous for a person with physical disabilities to negotiate their environment. It may also exclude them from activities.

The Department of Justice has identified some of the most common errors and omissions made in reference to the ADA.

**Error/Omission:** Adequate maneuvering clearance is not provided at doors, including doors to accessible toilet stalls.

**Result:** A person using a wheelchair cannot open the door without a clear level area in front of and adjacent to the door that provides a place to maneuver.

**Requirement:** 4.13.6 Maneuvering Clearances at Doors. Minimum maneuvering clearances at doors that are not automatic or power-assisted shall be as shown in Fig. 25. The floor or ground area within the required clearances shall be level and clear.

4.17.5* Doors. Toilet stall doors, including door hardware, shall comply with 4.13. If toilet stall approach is from the latch side of the stall door, clearance between the door side of the stall and any obstruction may be reduced to a minimum of 42 in (1065 mm) (Fig. 30).

**Error/Omission:** The shape of the door hardware requires tight grasping, pinching, and twisting of the wrist to use.

**Result:** The door cannot be opened if the user cannot operate the latch or handle.

**Requirement:** 4.13.9* Door Hardware. Handles, pulls, latches, locks, and other operating devices on accessible doors shall have a shape that is easy to grasp with one hand and does not require tight grasping, tight pinching, or twisting of the wrist to operate. Lever-operated mechanisms, push-type mechanisms, and U-shaped handles are acceptable designs. When sliding doors are fully open, operating hardware shall be exposed and usable from both sides. Hardware required for accessible door passage shall be mounted no higher than 48 in (1220 mm) above finished floor.

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**EMAIL MIGRATION PROJECT**

The Systems & Services group is working on a project to migrate Facilities Management email services to the central Computing & Information Services (CIS) group. The project planning has already begun and notices will be sent out soon indicating the dates of the transition. Migrating our email services to CIS will enable shared contact lists and calendaring with the rest of the Brown community. In addition, all of our bargaining unit staff will have access to email accounts. Everyone in Facilities Management will benefit by having Web access to email from anywhere.

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**Tech Tip**

To reduce the size of your files, make sure to use the “Compress Pictures” button on your Picture tool bar.

1. Select the picture.
2. On the Picture toolbar, select the Compress Picture button.
3. Apply to “All pictures in document.”
4. Choose resolution: screen for PowerPoint (96dpi) or print (200dpi).
On Friday, November 16th, the department gathered to celebrate the season and share pie and coffee. Yum!

Across
1 A fixed seat enclosed wholly or partially at the back and sides
3 A connection to a water supply main
5 A vertical member separating windows, doors, or panels
6 A continuous recess built into a wall to receive pipes, ducts
9 A horizontal structural member, such as a beam, over an opening which carries the weight above it
10 Having three wings or three rows of columns
13 A passage or lane designated for pedestrian traffic
15 A hexagonal structure or pattern
16 Any small projecting member or part of a piece or structure, either decorative or structural
18 A plant fiber; forms a cheap, strong, durable yarn
21 An open space where several road or paths meet
22 A price quoted by a contractor, subcontractor or vendor
24 A device with two or more coupled windings, used to convert a supply of electric power at one voltage to another
27 An instrument for measuring high temperatures
29 A place where plants, shrubs, and small trees are grown, usually for transplanting elsewhere
31 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, abbr.
32 American National Standards Institute, abbr.
33 In an air-conditioning or heating system, a space served by the system, whose temperature is regulated by a single control
37 Said of timber which has decayed
38 A small private chapel furnished with an alter and a crucifix
40 A type of trailer for hauling construction equipment
43 The truck or main stem of a tree

For a larger copy of the crossword, please see Trish Duff.

Down
1 Any thick hand-split shingle or clapboard
2 American National Standards Institute, abbr.
4 The inner curve or face of an arch or vault forming the concave underside
7 A service way providing a secondary public means of access
8 A small tool with a pointed screw at one end; used to bore small holes in wood by turning it
11 An instrument which responds to changes in temperature
12 A waterspout projecting from the roof gutter of a building, often carved grotesquely
14 An ornamental treatment, used over an arch, a door, or a window
16 Plant or tree that retains its verdure through all the seasons
17 One of the most used knots due to its no slip design
19 Point of entry into a building
20 Measurement of surface within specified boundaries
21 A low underground passage
23 A coat of paint applied on new wood, or over a primer
25 Notched on the edges, like a saw
26 The part of a beam projecting beneath a roof slab or floor
27 Any public building or private residence which is impressive
28 The height of a flight of stairs from landing to landing
30 A group of electric conductors which originate at a main distribution center
34 A portable platform used to facilitate handling by a forklift
35 To bend or warp
36 A crowbar or similar tool
39 To split wood along the grain, as in making shingles
41 The part of a building plot not occupied by the building, open to the sky
42 A parcel of land that is described on a recorded plant or by survey

The first team (5 people maximum) to return a correct and complete puzzle to Trish Duff will win a free cup of coffee for each member from Blue State Coffee.
COMINGS & GOINGS

Welcome New Employees!

Real Estate
- Jana Cram, Administrative Assistant
- John Luipold, Director of Real Estate

Systems and Services
- Tom Flood, Systems Administrator
- Kevin Izzo, Programmer/Analyst
- Kenneth King, CAD Technician

Planning Design & Construction
- Janice Day, Financial Coordinator
- Jeanne Hebert, Executive Assistant, Project Management
- Seth Izzi, Assistant Project Manager

Facilities Operations & Engineering
- Amy Morton, Executive Assistant Sustainable Energy & Environmental Initiatives
- Ginger Gritzo, Energy & Environmental Program Coordinator

Facilities Services
- Deb Dunphy, Director of Facilities Services

Service Response Center
- Kerri King, Coordinator
- Dolores Gaulin, Events Assistant Maintenance Services

Engineering
- Louis Amadio, Mechanical Engineer

Vice President’s Office
- Lisa Goulden, Administrative Assistant

Enjoy Retirement!
- Alan Bliek, Planning Coordinator

Custodial Services
- Michael Passerello, Overnight Supervisor
- Michael O’Keefe, East Campus Supervisor
- William Roche, Overnight/Dining Supervisor

Service Response Center
- Stephen Poniatowski, Supervisor of Preventative Maintenance

THESE EDITIONS OF FACILITIES NEWS INCLUDE INFORMATION REGARDING MANY OF THE EFFORTS UNDERWAY. IT HAS BEEN WRITTEN TO PROVIDE ALL FM EMPLOYEES WITH INFORMATION REGARDING DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES ACROSS THE VARIOUS OFFICES.

IF YOU HAVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR ARTICLES OR WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO FACILITIES NEWS PLEASE CONTACT LICHEN GREWER @ 3-9416.