



# Inside Facilities

August-October 2015



## ► We Are Appreciated

Whether we are cleaning classrooms, training researchers or overseeing the construction of Tech's newest research labs, the Facilities Management team consistently receives praise and appreciation for delivering an high level of service.

There is no end to the depth and breadth that our teams will go to in order to assure that our campus community is clean, safe and efficiently operating. This quarter was right on par.

Twenty-five personal thank-you letters were sent in from our customers! We were also treated to a festive A&F Staff Appreciation event that had everyone smiling.

"We have an exceptional group of staff members in Facilities Management. Thank you for your hardwork and dedication," said Facilities Vice President Chuck Rhode.

## ► EBB GRAND OPENING

Georgia Tech's newest research facility, the Engineered Biosystems Building, is open and fully occupied. With the completion of this project, our campus has a new north entrance and an additional Highland Bakery location. Stop in and view the electronic signage to learn of the world-changing research being conducted in EBB. Go Jackets!



## ► CAMPUS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Providing access to the "back of the house" of our facilities and sharing our industry expertise allows Georgia Tech to pursue inventive solutions that will positively impact our world.

- The Holland Plant Utilities team has led over 100 undergraduate thermodynamics students on informative plant tours this semester.
- Ben Mason and Craig Forte of Energy Conservation provided mechanical room tours to the Aerospace Systems Design Lab.
- Hyacinth Ide facilitated grounds access for an undergraduate research project testing natural herbicides.
- The summer was filled with Yellow Book Construction and Design Standards workshops. Thanks to Nic Palfrey and Malte Weiland for helping arrange the sessions which covered the nuances of the Georgia Peach Standards and a workshop to better understand ASHRAE 189.1 "Design of High Performance Green Buildings". These workshops included members from several departments across campus in order to support an integrated re-write.
- Scott Jones and Jessica Rose hosted the City of Atlanta at the CNES lab to share maintenance tips on our solar panels.
- Paul Wiley, Jerel Harris and John Zabala are working together to safely provide Tech robotic researchers access to one of our transformer vaults. This research aims for safer inspections using robotic vehicles.

## ► PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

### Development

- Associate Director of Design Gary Jelin attended the International Living Future Institute's Living Product Expo. The connections he made will help support our upcoming efforts on the Living Building Challenge project.
- Cindy Jackson, our Associate Director of Recycling, attended the Georgia Recycling Coalition's Annual Conference, helping to ensure that GT remains on the cutting edge of waste-offset trends and practices in the Southeast.
- Area Maintenance Managers Bill Halabi and Andy Sheffield attended APPA's annual meeting to learn about new trends in facilities operations.
- Associate Director Tommy Little attended the inaugural Green Clean Schools Leadership Summit in Seattle.
- Jeffrey Maynard, our HR Business Partner, conducted the Facilities Management New Employee Orientation to a total of fourteen O&M team members.

### Industry

Volunteering to represent Georgia Tech within your industry can help your career flourish. Thanks to the following team members for their dedication.

- Our Utilities Maintenance team hosted visitors from Florida State University in July and October. Our colleagues came to learn about the good practices and efficiencies we apply to our energy mix decisions.
- Scott Jones presented "Smart Buildings" to the GSFIC on Building automation systems at the Georgia Association of State Facilities Administrators Fall Conference.
- Energy Manager Ben Mason and Communications Officer Jessica Rose shared Tech's energy management strategies at the National Association for Chief Business Officers Annual Conference in Nashville.
- On July 15 Dave Marder and Christina Tabor of EHS presented at the USG Environmental & Occupational Safety Workshop.
- Greg Spiro from Design & Construction and Ben Mason and Tony Gonzales from Energy Conservation visited Emory University to learn about their Sustainable Performance Program.
- Many members from our Design & Construction Team attended an event on Net-Zero and Living Building Challenge pursuits.
- EHS Biosafety team members Meagan Fitzpatrick and Shane Gillooly have presented at three major conferences this quarter. They are sharing best practices with the Campus Safety Health and Environmental Management community.



Donna Chronic and her co-workers supported a campus-wide tree tour for the Georgia Urban Forest Council.

## ► AWARDS

# Applause for Innovation



Construction Administrative Manager Elizabeth Punch was honored by EH&S with the Safety Ambassador Award for her pioneering approach to project safety. Great Job!



Congrats Construction Manager Jennifer Disotell for strong oversight on Stamps Field. The Georgia Society of Civil Engineers awarded this innovative renovation "Project of The Year"!



The Georgia Urban Forest Council awarded our campus the prestigious President's Award in recognition of our comprehensive GIS tree inventory and management program.



## ► RAISING THE BAR

# Praise & Appreciation

- *"Wendall Wood and David White of Maintenance Area 5 both were at Habersham today working on the lighting and plumbing. We are very grateful for the services that they provide. Like many of your other technicians (they) are very pleasant and have done great job on several projects at this building."* -Sam Aral, Ivan Allen College
- *"Thanks (Meagan Fitzpatrick) for giving a great biosafety training...I am not surprised now why my students who have recently taken this course with you so clearly understand the biosafety rules and have been so successful in keeping the lab a safe place to work. Thanks for...all you do to help keep us safely working!"* -Dr. Susan N. Thomas, Asst. Professor, School of Mechanical Engineering
- *"As always, Ron Neal, (Maintenance Area 5 Painter) does a great job...Thanks to Sonia Rosa as well. I communicate with her and she quickly converts it to work order. If she's unclear of something, she always calls for clarity."* -Mayumi Cole, Army ROTC/ Military Science
- *"I want to acknowledge the professional and nice work of one of Georgia Tech's painters, Mr. David Graham (Maintenance Area 4). He has painted in Skiles and did a wonderful, professional job. We appreciate him doing jobs in a timely manner."* -Sharon McDowell, Asst. to the Chair, Mathematics
- *"Thanks to Area 3 and 5 for your painters. They have been a big help supporting Area 1."* -Joe Meadows, Maintenance Foreperson



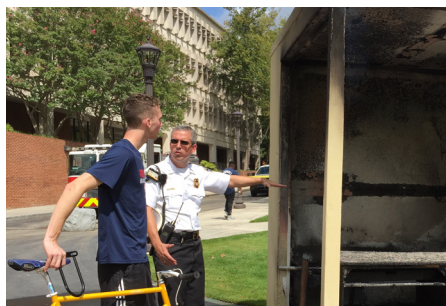
- *"Thank you so very much, (George Churchill, Energy Conservation), for all of your assistance in overseeing our restoration project. You guys are great at what you do! You've sincerely earned our respect and appreciation."* -Jim Pierce, Sr. Director, Bursar and Treasury Services. (Left: Lyman Hall before photo.)

## ► EVENTS

### Campus Safety Day



Several members from our Environmental Health and Safety Department shared valuable safety tips with students at Campus Safety Day. Everyone was impressed with the annual "Dorm Burn" managed by our Fire Marshall Larry Labbe.



## Promotions & Retirees

Facilities Management is on the move! Congratulations to all of the new hires. Whether working up or just joining, there is always room for growth at Tech.

- Brenda Cochran, formerly from Maint. Area 3, was hired as a Finance Contracting Officer.
- Judith Minnefield, formerly from the Building Services Dept., was hired in the Design & Construction team.
- Jasmine Robinson, formerly of Building Services, was hired in Maintenance Area 3.
- Adam Fischer is our new Lab. and Chemical Safety Specialist and Helen Castillo is the new EH&S administrative professional. Both team members come to us from Georgia State University.



Irene Earl retired as a Senior Administrative Professional after more than 30 years of service.



Electrician Bruce Crumbly getting a farewell hug from 49er Ronnie Croy. Bruce retired from Utilities Maintenance after 30 years of service.



## ► EVENTS

# A&F Staff Appreciation

Everyone deserves appreciation for a job well-done. This year adjusted the schedule of the Staff Appreciation Day was adjusted so that more Facilities members could take part.

We all valued the break from the daily grind to enjoy a sundae bar, snacks, games and each other's company.



Top: Chuck Rhode 'supervised' mechanical engineers Sam Dadah and Federico Del Risco's billiards game. Bottom: Team members from Custodial Zone 9 enjoyed a round of bowling.



Always-mischievous Buzz was on location to provide plenty of hijinx and happiness to the Administration and Finance staff members.



Dawud Saleem, our Maintenance Area 2 painter, ruled the tables in the Tech Rec area.

## Striking a Photobooth Pose

One of the many fun activities of the day was the A&F photo booth. Below some members of our Building Services team prep for their photo debut.



## ► RAISING THE BAR (CONTINUED)

# Praise and Appreciation

Nothing displays a job well done better than a personal thank you note from your customer. This quarter there were so many notes, we had to expand this section!

- *“Big thanks to John McElreath (Electrician in Maintenance Area 4) for his work in getting the power back to the cubicles in the IRP office...he was able to find the problem and fix it quickly.” -George Churchill, Construction Engineer II*
- *“Great job Don Alexander and to the whole team that supported him in the Guaranteed Energy Savings Performance Contract: Greg Spiro, David Chandler, Frank Lamia and Gary Jelin.” -Scott Jones, Director of Design & Construction*
- *“Thank you for everything you (Maintenance Area 3) do to keep the Aerospace Engineering buildings in good shape! I know you have a big job with lots of demands. I appreciate your dedication and effort.” -Vickie Brian, Building Manager*
- *“I would like to thank Andy Sheffield and your (Area 5 Maintenance Team) staff for another great job... As always your team was punctual and completed the task with great service!” -Jeannette Landers, Admin. Asst., Naval ROTC*
- *“Mr. Dylan Gilbert’s (of Landscape Services) commitment to grass on campus is truly inspirational. It is my privilege and honor to be employed by an institution that counts him among its staff...I noticed and appreciated the uniformity of our campus grasslands, which I can now attribute to the dedicated efforts of Mr. Gilbert and his team.” -James S. Martin, Sr. Research Engineer, Mechanical Engineering*
- *“Thank you (EHS Department) for assisting us with determining the temperature and relative humidity ranges throughout the CRC. Based on those findings we were able to...safeguard our patrons.” -Jonathan Hart, Assistant Director Campus Recreation*
- *“We had a building flood in Bunger Henry... Thanks to Maintenance Area 2 HVAC Techs Kelly Farmer, Nigel Azula, Peter Kong-Quee and Chris Fuller for going out of their way to help Area III out.” -Onkar Auzla, Multicraft Foreperson*
- *“The Facilities Department (and area 5 team) have consistently provided the best overall service of any unit I’ve dealt with on campus...(T)he level of personal interaction and care that I get from both Andy Sheffield and Richard Chew far surpass anything I’ve experienced.” -Melissa Arceneaux, Financial Manager II, Procurement & Business Services*
- *“Thank you all (in Building Services Custodial) for working so diligently on resolving the issue with the leak. I cannot tell you how much (the employees) appreciated your combined efforts to take care of us in such a timely fashion.” -Chris Rettkowski, Sr. Facilities Manager., Georgia Tech Alumni Association*
- *“As promised, the confidential bin in our file room was picked up and exchanged this morning (by the Office of Solid Waste & Recycling). I really appreciate the expeditious response to our last minute request. Thank you so, so very much!” -Sherald Giddens, Records Supervisor, Human Resources*
- *“Thanks for the great job you (Donna Chronic) and Mr. Norman of Landscape Services are doing on the roof garden, Clough and library surroundings. Everything looks great.” -William Tandongfor, Facilities Manager, CULC/Library*

“The landscaping around the Hill is just perfect. The season, size of the plants and obvious attention to details have all come together to make this space really shine!” - Steve Swant, Executive Vice President, Administration & Finance complimenting our Landscape Services Team in September.



## Staying Sharp With Technology & Training

One of Georgia Tech's strategic goals is to "relentlessly pursue institutional effectiveness". What does this mean to Facilities Management? It begins with embracing technology and training and ends with continuous improvement of our performance.

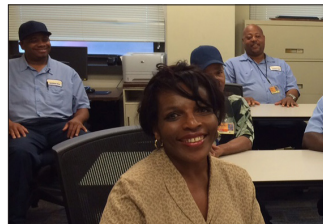
Facilities Management employees are an integral support system at this institution. We are the backbone that keeps things humming. From tradeworkers to construction project managers and everything in between, if our team members aren't up to date on technology and procedures, then we can't provide the safe, efficient facilities that our community needs in order to thrive.

To stay effective and keep a leading edge it's important for employees to take part in regular trainings. Many opportunities are available to you at Georgia Tech, but it is up to you to pursue them. Go beyond informal, on-the-job shadowing and sign up for one of our many specialty trainings.

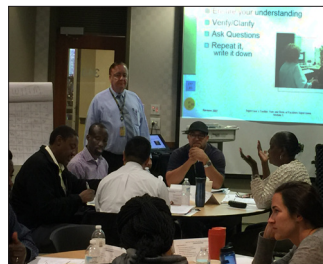
We want you to love your job and grow. Work with your manager on a professional development plan to develop your career goals. Create a map for your future and get to your destination more quickly. Check out the below opportunities and decide which ones may be right for you.



Building Services held a bi-annual green cleaning training for twenty five team members.



From Left: Custodial Supervisor Gwen Marks attended a recent training to stay up to date on the latest policies and procedures in her industry. Store Clerk Larry Goodman co-taught the recent green cleaning training with Program Coordinator Wendy Welker.



From Left: Attendees of the latest APPA Supervisor Toolkit course learn new communication skills. Custodian Hari Dangal learning about new, chemical-free cleaning equipment.

## Training Opportunities

To attend any of these no-cost trainings, simply gain approval from your supervisor and sign up. There are three areas of focus currently available on-campus.

1. Safety courses can be scheduled with Safety Specialist Osasere Idahosa.
  - Confined Spaces
  - Lockout/Tagout
  - Trenching & Shoring

2. Georgia Tech's Human Resource Dept. offers certificates in Emergency Preparedness and Financial Fundamentals. They also offer classes in workplace communication and leadership. Go to [Trains.gatech.edu](http://Trains.gatech.edu) for scheduling details.

3. Contact HR Business Partner Jeffrey Maynard to inquire about scheduling.
  - DiSC Profile Assessments
  - Fall Safety: Courses are held annually.
  - Electrical License & Plumbing Certifications: Maintain your state license with bi- annual courses.