

# Inside Facilities

June-July 2015



## ► Constructing Commencement

Commencement is one of the most visible functions that we have on campus every year, with many student's families and friends visiting for the first time. It allows Georgia Tech to put its best foot forward for our graduates, their families and visitors.

Facilities Staging Department supports campus commencement activities including all levels of graduation and the President's Reception. The events take 760 man hours each season.

"The fact that Brandon and our Staging Department are able to seamlessly and behind the scenes set up all the chairs, risers, podiums, banners and other equipment in a very short window of time is a strong testament to their hard work and dedication. We are very proud of our Staging operation," said Assistant Vice President Mark Demyanek.

## ► CADELL BUILDING GRAND OPENING

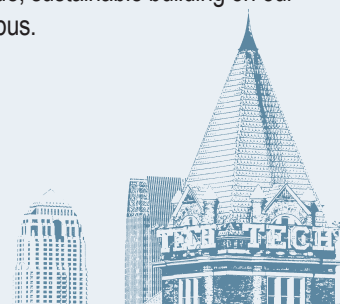
The School of Building Construction has a new home in the renovated Caddell building. Kudos to Project Managers David Bowman and Jennifer Disotell for their hard work. This building is an efficient and unique learning environment that we can all be proud of.



## ► CAMPUS COMMUNITY

Student and research engagement supports the pursuit of real-world solutions that Georgia Tech is so well known for.

- Facilities Energy Conservation team supported student projects for the Carbon Reduction Challenge. One of the project teams' ideas is going to be implemented on the Montgomery Knight building.
- Mechanical Engineer Tony Gonzalez, Interim Plant Manager Gerald Benjamin and Plant Operators Philip Schroeder and Dennis Smith hosted a research focus group at the Holland Plant.
- Environmental Programs Officer Ryan Lisk was a co-instructor for the GT 1000 Seminar course that provides mentoring and support for freshmen.
- Billy Baxter and William Alfaro of O&M helped a Civil Environmental Engineering class sample water in multiple cisterns. This class began sampling our cistern water in 2011.
- Gary Petherick and Greg Spiro from the Design & Construction team guided members of Institute Communications on a tour of the CNES Laboratory. The tour expanded our colleagues' understanding of a very unique, sustainable building on our campus.



## ► PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT & INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT

### Development

- Associate Director of Utilities Maintenance Casey Charepoo directed two APPA Supervisor ToolKit trainings recently at NC State University and Morehead State University. The courses were very well received with attendees from more than 15 colleges and universities across the U.S.
- Eight electricians from across Operations & Maintenance completed our in-house electrical training for license renewal on May 6th. Congratulations to these dedicated professionals for keeping up to date and in the know!
  - John McElreath, Area IV
  - William Robertson, Area III
  - Ralph Carter, Utilities Maintenance
  - Jedd Versteeg, Area II
  - Mark Hopkins, Design & Construction
  - Anthony Sheffield, Area V
  - Bruce Crumbley, Utilities Maintenance
  - Ronnie Croy, Energy Conservation

### Industry

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

- Meagan Fitzpatrick, Biosafety Officer for EHS, was elected to serve as a Board Member on the Campus Safety Health and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA), an organization that provides training and networking opportunities for EHS professionals across the country.
- Fleet Services Manager Sam Evans' suggestion on improving accident reporting was featured in the bulletin of the Georgia Department of Administrative Services.
- Gary Jelin, Greg Spiro, and John DuConge of the Design and Construction team supported campus sustainability tours for attendees of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) national conference. The tours visited seven green buildings on campus, included over 50 attendees and were a smash hit.
- Scott Jones, our Director of Design & Construction, presented Tech's application of BIM to the American Institute of Architects (AIA).
- Sustainability Project Manager Malte Weiland initiated a lunch and learn on the Living Building Challenge that earned continuing education credits for 22 Facilities participants.
- Program Coordinator Wendy Welker hosted industry professionals from around the world, educating them on our award-winning green cleaning program.
- Architects Nic Palfrey and Bill Oswell attended the Digital Building Laboratory Industry Symposium. This symposium featured advancements in the designed and built environment.



Lunch-n-learn attendees gaining new green building knowledge.

## ► AWARDS

# Leading by Example



Congratulations to Construction Manager Elizabeth Punch and her crew for winning the Associated General Contractors of Georgia Award: 1st Place Honors for the historic Lloyd W. Chapin Building renovation.

Chapin is one of ten buildings on "The Hill" that Georgia Tech has registered in the National Register of Historic Places.

The space originally served as the school's infirmary in the 1930's and it has been restored to reflect the original design style and layout.

Please visit the space when you have a chance and see how attention to the details enhances a historic renovation.



Hyacinth Ide, Associate Director of Landscape Services, was awarded the Georgia Tech Earth Day Environmental Leadership and Sustainable Initiatives Award.



## ►EVENTS

# Earth Day 2015

The Office of Solid Waste and Recycling hosted its first Earth Day on the Georgia Tech campus in 1998. Over the years this event has grown to be a campus-wide celebration enjoyed by students, faculty and staff. As a part of the 2015 celebration, four additional Facilities teams hosted booths to educate the students on policies and projects that minimize impacts on the environment.

Environmental Health and Safety's display featured an explanation of various air pollutants and how they impact our air quality in the city.

Design & Construction featured visual boards depicting the historical and current water flows across the campus, and how our construction projects aim to regenerate those natural flows.

The Custodial team shared the many health benefits of their Green Cleaning program, while the Landscape Services Department shared the history of Tree Campus USA and the PGMS Certification process.

We are proud of our progress, and especially proud to have the Office of Solid Waste and Recycling in our corner. This department helps bolster our campus involvement and reminds our customers that Facilities Management is dedicated to responsible environmental stewardship.

**"The earth is what we all have in common." -Wendell Berry**



Facilities Management employees were helpful throughout the event. Captain Planet came out to lend a hand, too.

## ASHREA Tour

On June 30 members of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-conditioning Engineers, (ASHRAE) toured some of our facilities to learn about the innovative methods we employ for energy conservation and management. Fifteen people toured the Holland Plant and the Clough Undergraduate Learning Commons.



Sr. Project Manager John DuConge explains aspects of Clough's water collection system.



The group pauses for a photo on the rooftop garden with Sr. Mechanical Engineer Greg Spiro.



Plant Operator Dennis Smith helped to educate the camera-happy and very curious visitors.



## ► EVENTS

# Summerfest 2015

Facilities employees cut loose just before the 4th of July holiday to enjoy the annual summer picnic.

A special thank you goes out to Landscape Associate Director Hyacinth Ide for chairing the picnic committee and to his team members who took extra time to gather fresh table decorations. We also could not have enjoyed our burgers and dogs without Area 3 Manager Terry Williams and his crew demonstrating their grill skills. Great work all!



Building Maintenance chows down.



Coworkers and friends pause for a pic.



Weiners, burgers, and chicken, oh my! Thank you Area 3.



Jedd and James of Area 5 share a laugh and a meal together.



Building Services Team Members enjoying food, music, and each other.

## Picnic Activities

The inner athlete came out in many people as they tried their hands at softball, bean-bag toss and the Georgia Tech Leadership Challenge Course.





## ► RAISING THE BAR

# Praise and Appreciation

Facilities Management is running full steam ahead this summer. Thank you notes were noticeably focused on quick action and attentiveness. Great work everybody!

- “**James Harbour, Wes Cooper and Rodney Levitt** of Maintenance Area 1 are always kind, responsive to our needs and work to find solutions... They make all of us as Georgia Tech look good.” – Latanya Buckner, GT Manufacturing Institute
- “Thank you for letting your painter, **Nick Wiseman**, (from Area 4), come and help us out this week. He was dependable, conscientious and did a great job. He was a real team player!” – Brenda Cochran, Maintenance Area 3
- “Giving a big thanks to **David Jordan** of the Steam Shop 2 for dropping what he was doing and shutting off the water and steam to a broken valve in an autoclave that had water pouring out. His fast response helped prevent a lot more damage.” –Terry Williams, Area 3 Maintenance Manager
- “The Rich Building experienced a flood due to road construction. Our Custodial Team composed of **Daniel Desaussure, Adrian Harris, Deborah Miller, Henry Samuels and Michael Mayers** sprang into action and supported clean up and water extraction.” – Rich Computing Building Team
- “Thanks so much for everything (at the Rolling Stones concert. I really appreciated **Tony Blalock and his staff's** hard work during a very unusual event.” – Chris Rettkowski, GTAA
- “I commend Maintenance **Area 1 and Utilities Maintenance** for jumping on a flood problem so quickly... They stuck with it until it was repaired even though it took us into early evening. I also appreciate the custodian group for keeping things as clean as they could during repairs. So glad to have a wonderful team working with us.” –Cary Ogletree, Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering
- “A special thanks to you and your team (**Maintenance Area 4**) for your efforts in working to make improvements to the Library; this will be beneficial and critical for us.” - Kimberly Mull, Library & LE
- “Thank you **Gary Spichiger**, Associate Radiation Safety Officer, for the help with the measurements last week. Gary is deserving of high praise...(he) was quite patient and upbeat during the process.” -Brent Wagner, Ph.D. Principal Research Scientist, GTRI
- “Thanks to your (**landscape**) team for all of your help planning our Pi Mile needs and for the way your staff handled the event. Jerome Swanson and his crew were a pleasure to work with and handled everything so smoothly.” -Vallee B. Donovan, Alumni Association
- “I commend Tech’s efforts to help our environment...As we were tailgating last night for the Stones Concert we were offered a bag for our recyclables from **the recycling team**. That is a great idea and (w)e all loved the t-shirts they were wearing.” -Kim Mauldin, Bellsouth



“Be sure to extend my thanks to those who make our campus beautiful. We students are very, very thankful for the men and women that make Tech’s campus stand out above the rest!”  
– Alex Dunlap, Student Athlete



## ► BUZZ WORTHY

# Keeping Cool in the Year-End Hot Seat

The end of the fiscal year is always a hectic time within the Facilities Department. As budgets close and new projects go live, extra smiles and attention to detail go a long way. Below are just a few of the many ways we stayed fresh and kept each other shining with pride and good spirits.

The Business Services team and Energy Conservation Manager Ben Mason worked tirelessly to complete processing of all end-of-year contracts, as well as the seemingly-endless project request list. "Without the hardwork of these invaluable people we would not be able to serve our community the way that we do. THANK YOU!" – Scott Jones, Director of Design & Construction.

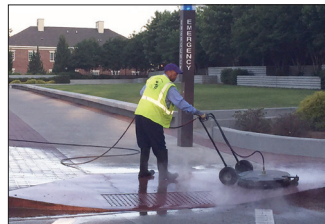
As contracts were filled and projects commenced, permit approvals and asbestos clearance requests came in hard and fast. Environmental Health & Safety's Fire Safety and Environmental Departments are diligently processing the requests and smiling all the while.

Lastly, teams throughout Facilities Management kept up their energy by enjoying the beautiful weather and keeping a twinkle in their eyes while working.

Cheers to everyone for keeping up your polish under pressure.



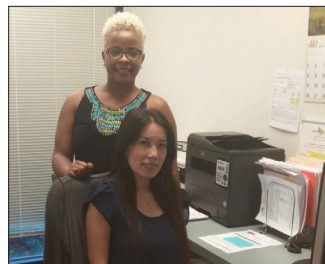
Area 2 held their weekly meeting outdoors to enjoy an early June morning.



Gordon Gray Grounds Keeper III, AKA "G Man", always happy on the job and always in full safety gear!



In the field with David Marder and Ryan Lisk of EHS Environmental.



Contracting rock stars Donna Vongsouvan and Ericka Thomas keep up the pace into the new fiscal year. Our Fire Marshall Larry Labbe is short-handed but still smiling!



## Satisfaction

Whether we are hosting the President of the United States or rock-n-roll legends, The Rolling Stones, our departments consistently excel. Helping a fellow GT department member so that they can keep our campus safe was particularly satisfying.

"On the day of the Rolling Stones concert the air conditioning in my work truck stopped working. As you can imagine, with having a K-9, this is a very bad situation. I worked with Doug Braird (Fleet Mechanic) and he fixed me right up."

"Amidst my busy, busy day I was able to return to my mission for the Stones concert with little interruption. Thanks for taking care of Koda and myself in such a fast manner. Doug is an exemplary employee who is extremely knowledgeable in all facets of his job. Thanks again!" said Officer Zach Bryan of GTPD K-9 Unit.

