

July 2011

Inside this Issue:

Building Systems Maintenance.....	1-2
Custodial Services.....	3-7
Facilities Planning & Construction	8
Landscape Services.....	9-10
Utility Services.....	11
Message from Ted.....	12

Building Systems Maintenance

New Director of BSM: Jim Jackson

(Jim Jackson pictured right)



Building Systems Maintenance has a new Director. Jim Jackson, who had been serving as interim, was recently appointed by Assistant Vice Chancellor Ted Weidner to lead the organization. In making the announcement Dr. Weidner said, “Jim Jackson has been at the University for almost ten years. In that time he has been able to assimilate the customer service focus he developed as a private business owner with campus needs and expectations. His perspective is valuable and provides the BSM team with opportunities to change how it works to serve the university better.”

Jackson has worked at BSM since 2002, first overseeing the key shop and later filling key management positions. He served as Assistant Director under Jim Hines until Hines’ retirement in July 2010.

“When Jim Hines hired me it was not my goal to become the director of the department.” Jackson said, “I just wanted to do the best I could at what I was asked to do”. The educational opportunities offered by UNL and the mentoring by key administrators on both campuses are what have made the difference in his career. He said that those two things are what allowed him to grow and develop over the past ten years.

Jackson said he is excited by the challenges and opportunities that come with his new role. “The past year has been challenging for me. I served as Interim Director of BSM for nearly the entire year,” he said, “Although it was challenging to shift back and forth between my duties as Interim Director and Assistant Director, it gave me the opportunity to make some needed changes and help others grow within BSM which has resulted in a more efficient and focused organization”. Jackson said he is particularly looking forward to developing a more collaborative relationship with the other departments within the FMP family. He said BSM has already begun sharing some aspects of operations with Custodial Services and anticipates these kinds of things will make all of FMP a more cohesive and effective organization. He said he hopes to extend BSM’s collaborative efforts to other UNL departments and programs.

Dr. Weidner said he appreciates Jackson’s cooperative attitude and vision and noted that his efforts reach beyond the UNL campuses. He said, “Over the last year Jim has worked with others to update an APPA publication on building maintenance bringing new ideas about staffing and operations. His willingness to share his time and talents on a national level makes him a good representative of UNL and FMP”.

Jackson said he is pleased with this new direction in his career. He said, “I was a business owner for nearly 20 years before I came to UNL. The fiscal responsibility I learned, the importance of good customer service, and necessity of creating a culture of trust have all served me well during my time here.” Now as Director, Jackson sees nothing but possibilities for BSM. “Change has become part of the culture of BSM,” he said, “We are becoming an adaptable and fluid organization. Change is always a part of growth, and I am committed to see us grow and improve every day”.



Applause

The Perfect Thank You

Pictured Left: BSM Technician Mac Hunt and Alecia Kimbrough, Asst Dean College of Arts and Sciences

McLain (Mac) Hunt, BSM technician, was recently honored with an Applause award from the College of Arts and Sciences. This special award, which is usually given to Arts and Sciences members for exemplary service, was given to Mac for management of a renovation project in their offices.

In presenting the award, Alecia Kimbrough, Assistant Dean for Business and Finance for the College of Arts and Sciences, said, “The project was particularly challenging in that we needed it to be complete in a very short time frame and the Dean’s Office needed to be operating during the renovation”.

“Mac was able to accommodate all of our demands,” she said. “He regularly checked up on the project and kept us informed throughout. His customer service attitude was outstanding, and his calm demeanor was reassuring”. She said he made the renovation go very smoothly and completed everything on schedule.

“His outstanding customer service and constantly going above the call of duty warrant an honorary Applause from the College of Arts and Sciences”, she said.

What is the Applause Program?

The Applause program honors employees who perform their jobs extraordinarily well. Nominations may be sent anytime by anyone to acknowledge the efforts of any permanent employee. Whether you are faculty, staff, student or otherwise, your nomination can make a difference.

The College of Arts and Sciences is fortunate to employ many highly competent, loyal, innovative staff members. Our mission could not be achieved without their efforts. The Applause program recognizes innovative ideas, consistently outstanding performance, or service above and beyond the call of duty. Applause will be given for a valiant effort in either a failed attempt or a brilliant achievement.

What happens when an Applause is given? Applause awards are given monthly. In addition to being recognized, Applause awardees receive: a cash award, a reception in their home department, and publication of their achievement across campus and on line. In addition, six candidates will receive an Annual Applause award at our annual celebration. The annual award winners receive additional cash awards and are nominated for the University KUDOS award program. **Who is eligible?** College of Arts & Sciences permanent employees, Managerial/Professional, Clerical/Tech/Service. **Who can nominate? How often can someone be nominated?** Anyone on- or off-campus can nominate an employee, including the employee. Many nominations may be made for the same individual. Nominations will not expire but may become “stale” after a few months, so we welcome regularly-submitted nominations. **How do I nominate someone?** Fill out the online form or email applause@unlnotes.unl.edu with the nominee’s First and Last name as the entire subject line and a one-paragraph summary of the reason this individual should receive Applause. **How is someone selected?** An Applause Award Committee reviews nominations and makes recommendations for monthly/annual awards to the Assistant Dean. A candidate may be selected more than once, but not for the same achievement. Nominations may be selected for either the monthly or annual awards. **Who’s the Sponsor?** The Applause program is sponsored by the Dean’s Office, College of Arts & Sciences.

Custodial Services

EEVACS Awards

On March 16, 2011 Custodial Employee David Hayes noticed water gushing out of a vent in room 258 of Behlen Hall. He immediately called Custodial Supervisor Scott Foltz who investigated the situation. Scott then placed a call to the UNL operator who dispatched an emergency plumber. Within a matter of minutes, a total of six custodians were on the scene with wet/dry vacs. The additional custodians were John Varrati, Steve Garrison, Jim Chalk, Roger Whiteside and Doug Stephen. Water was running down from 2nd floor all the way to the sub-basement area. An estimated 2,500 gallons of water flooded the areas of almost 4 rooms. Some may think that these employees were just doing their jobs but considering that they were pulled from one area and rushed to another these employees went above and beyond their call of duty and expectations. Their experience and dedication really proved that UNL is lucky to have such valuable employees.



Award recipients pictured above, left to right: John Varrati, Steve Garrison, Jim Chalk, Roger Whiteside and Scott Foltz with Christine Jackson
(not pictured: David Hayes and Doug Stephen)



Award recipients pictured above, left to right: Jeremy Williams, Galen Harring, Calvin Foster and Bibiana Koang with Christine Jackson.

On March 17, 2011 Custodial Specialist Jeremy Williams was paged to go to the third floor of the Beadle Center to clean up water from a safety eyewash discharger. When contacted to give an assessment of the situation, Jeremy requested assistance due to the large amount of water on both third and second floors of the Beadle Center. Three other custodians were called to assist; Galen Harring, Calvin Foster and Bibiana Koang. These three custodians arrived at the building and gathered equipment within 15 minutes. With the use of three wet/dry vacuums and an auto scrubber, they were able to contain the bulk of the water in two hours. Carpet extractors were used to remove a large amount of water in the carpeted areas. Follow up work was performed with Beadle Staff to remove water damaged items to dumpsters and insure all floor surfaces were dry. Quick coordinated action by Jeremy, Galen, Calvin and Bibiana limited water damage to the twenty rooms and hallways affected. This also prevented water from reaching labs on the first floor of Beadle. The teamwork demonstrated by Jeremy, Calvin, Galen and Bibiana provides an excellent example of effective and efficient service to our customers.

On the morning of May 10, 2011 Scott Foltz was making his nightly rounds of checking on employees and buildings. On these rounds, he passed outside of the Lied Center and noticed water running out a side door of the building at 3:30 am. Since he did not have access to the area, Scott immediately contacted UNL police and the University Operator for assistance. A urinal on second floor seemed to have become stuck and was overflowing. If Scott had not noticed this and took immediate action the situation would have lasted until an employee of the Lied Center arrived for work and would have cost thousands of dollars in repairs. By 4:00 am the Lied Center Facility Staff manager was notified and was on site with additional staff. In an email from Larry Wathor (Lied Center for Performing Arts) Facility Service Manager, Larry stated "Scott, I want to thank you for being so observant and for reporting the water leak here at the Lied Center earlier this morning, you did great and possibly saved thousands in repairs. It is comforting to know that UNL has such committed and dedicated people here on campus. I received the water leak call at 4 a.m. and was able to be on site and get additional staff in to work on clean up even before UNL maintenance staff could get on site, we took care of the water problem and cleaned up the water internally. No internal damages were caused, thanks for your prompt action."



Award recipient Scott Foltz with VC of B&F Christine Jackson

Custodial Services Attends The Annual I.E.H.A. Spring Seminar

Every spring, The Cornhusker Chapter of the International Executive Housekeeper's Association sponsors a day long professional development seminar. This year's seminar was held May 13, 2011 at Union College. The program consisted of two educational and motivational speakers, Dr. Nancy Myers and also Dr. Barbara Ogg.

Nancy F. Myers, Ph.D.

Nancy has been at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln since 1990, when she and her twin daughters moved from Colorado Springs to Lincoln and Nancy initiated UNL's Employee Assistance Program. In December 2005, Nancy assumed the position of Director of Organization Development, working with departments on change management, team development, strategic planning and leadership development. Nancy holds a B.A. in Sociology from the University of Denver, a M.S. in Psychology from the Fielding Institute and a Doctorate in Human Resource Development from the University of Nebraska. She is licensed in the State of Nebraska as a Mental Health Therapist. She teaches Human Resource Management as Adjunct Faculty in the College of Business and is also advisor for the UNL curling team.



Dr. Nancy Myers Ph.D.

Managing in 2011

- Leadership Style Inventory – What kind of manager are you?
- What it means to be a manager
- Participatory Management without giving up control
- Work/Life Balance – Understanding the impact of family friendly legislation
- Managing Your Boss
- What is employee engagement?
- Developing employees – Identifying and advancing your high potential employees
- Building a team
- Managing conflict
- Establishing a climate of customer service – Know your stakeholders



Pictured: Nancy Myers and Custodial Supervisors Troy LaPointe and Scott Foltz



Dr. Barbara Ogg, Ph.D.

Barbara Ogg, Ph.D.

Barbara has a M.S. and Ph.D. from Iowa State University and has been a UNL extension educator at the Lancaster County Extension Office since 1992.

Bed Bugs: The Current Crisis

Currently, entomologists are seeing an exponential increase in the number of bed bug infestations. This is not confined to Nebraska and the U.S. but is a worldwide phenomenon. Barb discussed why bed bugs disappeared for so long and some of the possible reasons why we have seen bed bug resurgence. To help understand this problem, she discussed bed bug biology and behavior and how today's bed bugs are different from those of 80 years ago. She also discussed the most effective control options and some of the reasons why bed bugs are so difficult to control. Some simple precautions that prevent bed bugs being introduced into dwellings was also discussed.

Meet Jill Flagel, Director of Faculty/Staff Disability Services

My name is Jill Flagel and I'm the Director of Faculty/Staff Disability Services for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. I work with Dr. Christy Horn, ADA/504 Compliance Officer for the University, to assist employees who may have a health condition that qualifies them for an accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). All University employees have the right to request an accommodation under the ADA. Employees generally contact me after they have been referred by a friend, a coworker, their supervisor or someone in their department. I am also copied on a letter sent to the employee from their supervisor that begins with, "I understand that you may have a medical condition that could impact your ability to do your job" as well as the letter that is sent out to employees informing them that they have missed enough days at work that they could qualify for time off under FMLA (Family Medical Leave Act). Once I am aware that an employee may need assistance or an accommodation under the ADA I send them an "ADA packet" which consists of several forms that the employee completes and returns to my office. Some of the forms are medical releases giving me permission to contact their health care provider. Once I have received the completed forms from the employee I use their job description to create a request for information that is sent to their health care provider.

We ask for specific information that will help establish an ADA accommodation plan for the employee based on their abilities and limitations as well as their job description. Accommodations may provide the employee with a special piece of assistive technology or some other assistive device or it might change the tasks the employee is required to perform or adjust how often they can perform them. ADA accommodation plans are tailored to each employee individually. The employee as well as the department can provide information and input during the ADA process however, Dr. Horn ultimately makes the final decision as to what is written into the formal ADA accommodation plan. Accommodation plans can be adjusted as an employee's job description or health condition changes. Information given to us by the employee and/or their health care provider regarding an employee's diagnosis, limitations or abilities as well as the actual accommodation plan are kept confidential.

There has been a perception that if someone pursues an ADA accommodation there will be retaliation. This is not true. An ADA accommodation plan is designed to "level the playing field" for someone who may be having difficulty performing certain functions of their job due to a documented health condition. While not all disabilities can be accommodated, most can be. We literally have hundreds of employees at the University who have an ADA accommodation plan to assist them in performing the essential functions of their job. Accommodation plans are designed to allow the employee to continue to work even though they may have a disability or serious health condition that impacts their ability to do their job. A department cannot deny an employee an ADA accommodation plan but an individual employee can choose to refuse an accommodation. However, if an employee is having difficulties with certain tasks and refuses to go through the ADA process and pursue an accommodation plan, they will be evaluated based on their job performance without it. Accommodation plans remain in effect for the duration of employee's time at the University. Accommodation plans can be revised over time to accommodate changes in the employee's abilities and/or limitations. Some employees are uncomfortable with the word "disability." I often hear, "I'm not disabled so please take me off of whatever list you have me on" or, "why do you think I have a disability?" We do not automatically assume that everyone who is referred to our department has a disability. We contact employees regarding the ADA process in order to be sure they are aware that, as employees of the University, they may have rights under the ADA. Anyone who has any question regarding the ADA process should feel free to contact me by email at jflagel@unl.edu or by phone at 472-2322, Monday through Friday from 1:00-5:00 PM.

Jill D. Flagel
Director of Faculty/Staff Disability Services

FYI...

A person with a disability is generally defined as someone who:

- (1) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more "major life activities,"
- (2) has a record of such an impairment, or
- (3) is regarded as having such an impairment.

(Office on Disability Employment Policy, United States Department of Labor)

A disability may be physical, cognitive, mental, sensory, emotional, developmental or some combination of these. Disability is an umbrella term, covering impairments, activity limitations, and participation restrictions. An impairment is a problem in body function or structure; an activity limitation is a difficulty encountered by an individual in executing a task or action; while a participation restriction is a problem experienced by an individual in involvement in life situations. Disability is a complex phenomenon, reflecting an interaction between features of a person's body and features of the society in which he or she lives.

(World Health Organization)



Jill Flagel

Military and Naval Science Building

The Pershing Military and Naval Science building has sat at the corner of 14th and Vine since 1946. It has recently undergone a face lift in the South lobby. The walls are now adorned with a tribute to General John J. Pershing.

General Pershing was born in Laclede, Missouri. He grew up and worked on the family farm until 1882. At which point he began his long and storied military career at West Point. Upon graduating in 1886 then Lieutenant Pershing assumed command of the 6th Cavalry's F Troop where he served for five years.

Between 1891 and 1895 he became Professor of Military Sciences and Tactics at the University of Nebraska. He brought with him West Point's battalion model revolutionizing the university's Military Department. Pershing's vision would "take a body of corn fed yokels and turn them into fancy cadets, almost indistinguishable from West Pointers." During his tenure at UNL he founded Varsity Rifles which were later named the Pershing Rifles in 1895.

After leaving Nebraska he found himself commanding the 10th Cavalry in Cuba during the Spanish American War, Military Governor of the Moro Province in the Philippines, commander of the American Expeditionary Force in World War I and eventually the Army Chief of Staff between 1921 and 1923.

Chad Gieseke is the Custodial manager of the building. Dejana Kuljanin and Terry Nepper are the custodians who service the building.



General John J. Pershing

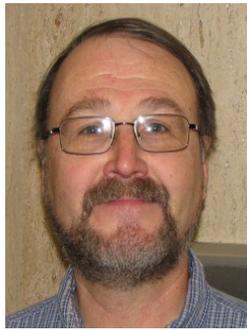


Pershing Tribute in M&N

Custodial Training School Graduates



Daniel Blair



William Jantzen



John Varrati



Marshall Vogel



Lee Rodaway



Dejana Kuljanin



Ronny Leach

New Custodial Leaders

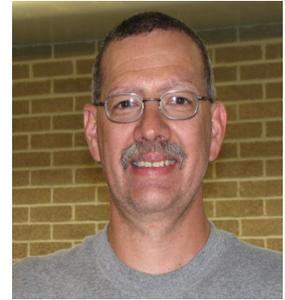


Gabe Nelson

New Custodial Specialists



Donna Kyker



Danny Broeder



Jason Weiland



Calvin Foster

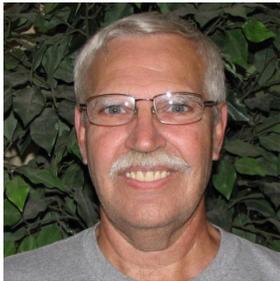


Paul Pribil



Fay Eby

New Custodial Employees



Jim Pfeiffer



Andrej Lewicki



Bernard Fisher



James Riang



Tammy Erickson



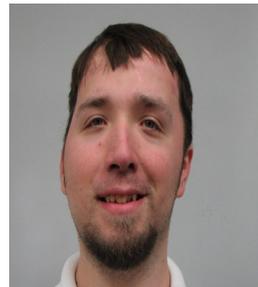
Brian Erickson



Marsa Majok



Joshua Dussart



Toby Arneson



Jeff Schwab



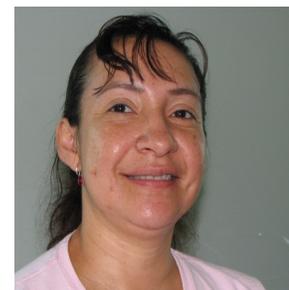
Gillian Stoodley



Hugo Orellana



Gordon Corey



Vilma Orellana

Facilities Planning & Construction



Alan Wedige

Project Manager Alan Wedige

In April 2011, Alan Wedige, Project Manager with Facilities Planning and Construction, received the LEED Green Associate credential from the Green Building Certification Institute. This is the first tier credential in the program. Alan is working on the LEED AP Building Design and Construction specialty credential and expects to take the examination in the next few weeks.

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln International Quilt Study Center has LEED Silver Certification. Alan was the project manager on this project.

**International Quilt Study Center
Located on the northwest corner of
33rd and Holdrege Streets**



What is LEED?

Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) is an internationally recognized green building certification system, providing third-party verification that a building or community was designed and built using strategies intended to improve performance in metrics such as energy savings, water efficiency, CO₂ emissions reduction, improved indoor environmental quality, and stewardship of resources and sensitivity to their impacts.

Developed by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), LEED is intended to provide building owners and operators a concise framework for identifying and implementing practical and measurable green building design, construction, operations and maintenance solutions.

Since its inception in 1998, the U.S. Green Building Council has grown to encompass more than 7,000 projects in the United States and 30 countries covering 1.062 billion square feet (99 km²) of development area. The hallmark of LEED is that it is an open and transparent process where the technical criteria proposed by USGBC members are publicly reviewed for approval by the almost 20,000 member organizations that currently constitute the USGBC.

The Green Building Certification Institute (GBCI) was established by USGBC to provide a series of exams to allow individuals to become accredited for their knowledge of the LEED rating system. This is recognized through either the LEED Accredited Professional (LEED AP) or LEED Green Associate (LEED Green Assoc.) designation. GBCI also provides third-party certification for projects pursuing LEED.

Landscape Services

Safety, the Intentional Way

Landscape Services is experiencing a good trend toward fewer accidents within our Department per year. 2007 and 2008 were not the years to boast about with nine and 13 cases reported consecutively. However, 2009 was reduced to seven cases and 2010 to just three cases reported. Landscape Services continues an effort to keep these numbers low. Having a safe environment at work has been a high priority to the department. Our department has nearly one hundred employees and over one hundred pieces of powered equipment ranging from Caterpillar loaders capable of lifting tons of material to leaf blowers, as well as powered hand tools.

Landscape Services has taken proactive steps in maintaining work place safety. Since the 1980's the department has incorporated a Safety Committee within its organization. The committee has nine members and meets monthly. Committee representatives are from each of the areas within Landscape Services, i.e., East Campus Landscape Maintenance, City Campus Landscape Maintenance, Mechanics, Construction, Irrigation, and Director, Eileen Bergt. In recent years, the Safety Committee has evolved with an Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) representative on the committee.

The committee was formed in 1982 influenced by City Campus Manager, Kirby Baird and Rich Wahl, who is now the Construction Manager. In 1981, Rich attended a Landscape Conference held at the University of Minnesota. One of the talks he went to discussed that for liability reasons it was important to have a Safety Committee at your organization. The speaker also said that training was a huge asset. The Committee started with quarterly meetings to address equipment issues and safety. The meetings were then increased to once every other month. As a need for communication and training increased, the Committee now meets once a month. At the meetings, issues are addressed regarding the safety within our department as well as the safety of the entire campus. We discuss issues such as trees and shrubs that effect our nighttime visibility, lighting, bike routes, condition of sidewalks and steps, snow and ice removal concerns, etc. for the safety of our students, staff, and faculty. We also discuss how many and what type of accidents have occurred within our department and on campus.

Training is another important part of our meetings. We discuss training of employees in using new or old equipment. It's a routine we must stay on top of. Our full time employees that have been here for some time also need to keep current with the equipment operating manuals and operating changes. Student employees are always changing within our department and that creates a need to continually offer training on equipment that they are permitted to use. Also, new equipment operating procedures change from year to year. Training sessions are conducted by the managers and the mechanics to instruct employees on the use of operating equipment and the safety gear to wear while using the equipment. To assure everyone is trained; our office keeps a record of who has participated in the classes. Our training instruction also extends outside of the Landscape Services Department, for example, East Campus Landscape Manager Jeff Culbertson and staff members have been asked to instruct special groups on chain saw safety and pruning. The special groups include faculty & staff and at the Safety Education Days in Mead, Nebraska, for UNL Extension.

Landscape Services also has a quarterly Safety Newsletter with safety topics that represent the upcoming season. Such topics include tips on driving safely when school starts, backing up of vehicles or in winter, driving on ice, etc. In 1994, we created a department Safety Award that is awarded to a deserving individual or group at the end of the year. Nominations are submitted by our employees and then voted on by the Safety Committee. 2010 co-awardees were Don Burseh and Duane Hoffbauer.

At a recent Chancellor's Safety Meeting, Environmental Health and Safety Director, Brenda Osthus commented to the committee that because Landscape Services Safety Committee meets regularly, distributes a newsletter and has a yearly safety award and have reduced the number of accidents within the department, it was the poster child of Safety Committees at UNL. Landscape Services continues to be diligent in its efforts to make sure the department is a safe environment for employees and students. We have realized that in order for students and employees to be mindful of safety, the issues, and the direction of what it means to be safe must be put in their "own" minds first. Through training, good safety habits are acquired the intentional way.



Pictured left: LS Safety Committee:
Back Row: Fred Binder, Will Koch,
Dale Schmidt, Fred Thorne. Front
Row: Yoko Smith, EHS, Eileen Bergt,
Patty Mueller. Not Pictured: Laurence
Ballard and Don Buresh

Pictured right: Patty Mueller presents
Duane Hoffbauer his plaque.



2011 Jazz in June Garden Tours

Landscape Services organized Garden Tours that were given before the annual Jazz in June concerts. 2011 is the 20th Anniversary of the concert series, the concerts are held outside the Sheldon Museum of Art each Tuesday evening during the month. Landscape Services has been organizing garden tours before Jazz in June for the last 9 years. The tours are generally 45 minutes to an hour in length and begin at the entrance of the Sheldon Museum of Art. The tours average 20 in attendance each week. These numbers include a host of regulars—including Donna Westlund and Linda Ayres, county health employees. They have been attending the tours the last 8 years and they tell us each year, after the last tour, that they will see us again next year.

On June 7th, Kay Logan-Peters, Architecture Librarian and Peter Bleed, Professor of Anthropology, lead a tour of the site of the former University Hall. They discussed the history of University Hall and the results of an archeological investigation of the former University Hall site. This summer, Landscape Services will be renovating this site. Emily Casper, Landscape Architect with Landscape Services also was available to talk about the site design plan.



On June 14th, Amy Tabor and Amber Hollmann from Landscape Services gave a tour of the newly planted shrub and perennial beds at Andrews and Burnett Halls. Some of the new plants that were added to these gardens were Lilac, Phlox, Coral bell, Columbine and Sedum.

Karen Janovy Director of Education at the Sheldon Museum of Art provided a tour of select objects in the outdoor sculpture garden on June 20th. The tour was based on works chosen by the participants upon their arrival to the tour.



Eileen Bergt, Director of Landscape Services lead a tour on June 28th of the Love Gardens to discuss what was blooming in the garden. We also talked about the new perennials that were added to the garden. These plants include Peony, Poppy, Anemone, Coral bell, Columbine, Bee Balm, Gaura and many others.



Utility Services

Replacement of two historical chillers

In 1964, the university installed two chillers that were the first to provide air conditioning to UNL's campus and the state capitol. After operating for 47 years, the original equipment is nearing the end of its useful life and it is time to replace it with more efficient chillers. In April, the university began disassembling the two original chillers at the Utility Plant on City Campus. The new equipment uses energy more economically than the original chillers. The project includes the installation of new pumps and filters to accommodate the new equipment. The filters will provide better system efficiency by removing air and dirt from the water to improve the effectiveness of pumping and transferring heat to the water. The installation of the new equipment is expected to be done in June of 2012.



City Campus Utility Plant

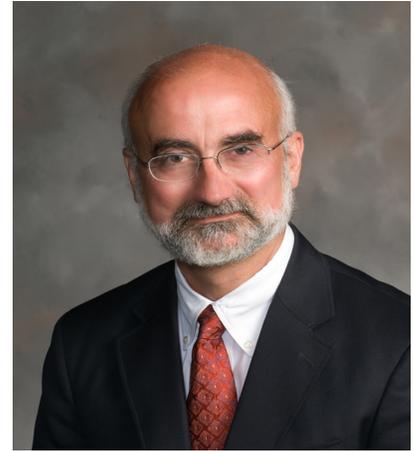
Installation of Thermal Energy Storage system

East Campus is currently supplied with chilled water by three chillers located in the East Campus central utility plant. Due to an increase in chilled water demand, the university was faced with either installing a new chiller or finding another solution. An engineering study was conducted to find the best solution for UNL. The study found that the installation of a Thermal Energy Storage (TES) system would improve the use of existing chillers. This solution uses energy generated at non-peak times and stores chilled water with existing equipment. TES will store the energy in the form of chilled water for use during peak demand times, when the cost of energy is much higher. The installation of the TES began in March 2011 and is located north of the East Campus Loop and west of 38th Street. The project is expected to be complete in May of 2012 and operating by June. UNL expects to see a decrease in electrical demand costs by \$250,000 per year, which can be applied to other energy conservation projects. The university will see a reduction of about 4,000 tons of CO₂ if the TES can be connected to an LES wind farm. The TES project will seamlessly integrate into the existing campus chilled water system, minimizing operating and maintenance costs associated with the chilled water needs of UNL's East Campus.



Concept Drawing of:
The UNL Thermal Energy
Storage Building
By: Sinclair Hille architects

A Message from Ted Weidner



We're now into another hectic summer of projects, restoration, and events on campus. While it seems to be part of the normal, academic cycle, life is changing at UNL. On July 1, we enter the Big Ten. As a person who grew up in Ohio and spent 11 years working in Illinois, this is both an exciting time and nothing new.

What's exciting? Sure there will be football and volleyball rivalries but the changes to the academic environment will be more profound. Earlier this year I visited Penn State to meet with Big Ten colleagues and toured the campus in State College. They have some impressive facilities where great research is done; facilities with a level of sophistication exceeding anything currently at UNL. As Penn State's research programs grew when they joined the Big Ten so will UNL's and that means new, sophisticated buildings to design and construct but also to maintain.

None of this means we don't have impressive facilities of our own. The Nanoscience building is nearly enclosed; the installation of the clean room will begin soon. When complete, scientists and engineers will explore materials smaller than a human hair. The room must be as clean as possible because a dust particle could obscure all their work. Starting construction later this summer will be an addition to the Morrison Center for Virology funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Our researchers have done so well with their discoveries the NIH looked to UNL to construct more facilities. Keim Hall is the source of many horticultural exhibits and demonstrations; the entire courtyard area is a big lab for the students and faculty. They are using it well; I have yet to see such a facility at another university.

But where does the Facilities Management and Planning team of technicians, custodians, groundskeepers, and other front line employees fit in to these impressive projects? Without you these projects would not be possible. Your dedication and hard work keep the campus operational; you make the campus attractive for new students and you maintain a creative environment for faculty and researchers. Every day, every FMP employee affects all students, faculty, and staff at UNL and has the opportunity to make it better. I can't thank you enough for being here and dedicating your time and energy to keep improving the campus and making it better for everyone in Nebraska.

This summer is also a time for changes. My assistant, Jeanette Fisher, who was instrumental in the success of the CAPPA 2010 conference we hosted last year, will be joining her husband in retirement. I will miss her cheerful, can-do, attitude. She kept me organized, on-time, and dealt with my occasional frustrations with some of work's more difficult issues. She will be replaced by Sally Wegner, a recent arrival from Kearney, where she was the office manager for a clinical psychologist. I'm confident Sally will be able to step in and keep me in line.

BSM has seen some significant changes with the announcement of Jim Jackson as the Director. Jim is effecting and experiencing changes as he completes implementation of a successful pilot program for preventive maintenance but as staffing changes in BSM leave him with voids to fill. Jim is developing a system to conduct facility audits so we have a good handle on capital renewal needs across campus; he is also participating in the selection of a computerized maintenance management system (CMMS) with Financial Services. The CMMS will help organize and track our operating needs and assist in predicting other building needs. It will also be useful for Custodial and Landscape Services as their needs increase.

Each area of FMP will soon have clear "master plans" for campus support. The plans will be updated annually, executed, and reported. We will demonstrate how we are serving the campus effectively and efficiently in all areas. So as the academic side of campus steps up to the Big Ten, the facilities organization will be alongside, making the campus better.

Look out Big Ten, here come the Cornhuskers!