Construction Updates

School and Medicine and Health Sciences:
Construction continues at the new SMHS facility. Crews are very busy working on interior finishes and MEP systems throughout the building. The public elevators are completed and furniture has started to arrive for the administrative office areas. Preparations are being made for faculty, staff, and lab equipment to be moved from the current SMHS to the new facility starting in May.

Collaborative Energy Center:
Construction work is progressing on schedule at the Collaborative Energy Center, located between Upson I and Leonard Hall. Crews are busy hanging and finishing drywall, installing mechanical/electrical/plumbing systems, and completing the work for the new roof. Masonry crews are installing new exterior and preparing for the installation of the new skywalk between the Collaborative Energy Center and the Laird Core Library.

Laird Core Library Expansion:
The Laird Core Library project is fully enclosed and all the pre-cast concrete walls have all been installed for the building

Mechanical/Electrical/ Plumbing work continues on first and second floor, as well as interior framing. Roofing on the building expansion will start next week (4/4/2016).

Robin Hall:
The Robin Hall crews are currently very busy with installing mechanical/electrical/plumbing systems, installing drywall, painting, interior framing, and glass installation. Crews are also working to finish enclosing the "spire" with glass and framing, but are restricted by high winds.

North Dakota Museum of Art:
Work is nearly completed at the North Dakota Museum of Art. The tongue and groove maple wood floor has been replaced in the past month as well as new carpet and tile flooring in the front entrance and steps to the gallery.

Nominations Sought for 2016 Staff Meritorious Awards
All faculty, staff and students are encouraged to nominate a staff member for a Meritorious Service Award to be presented at the Staff Recognition Luncheon on Tuesday, May 10, 2016. The University will present ten Meritorious awards of $1,000 each and a UND Proud Award of $1,000 to staff members. The Meritorious Service Awards will be presented to employees in each of five major groups. These groups and the number of awards presented are: Administrative, Administrative, and Professional (3); Technical/Paraprofessional (1); Office Support (3); Crafts/Trades (1); and Services employees (2). The UND Proud Award may be given to an employee from any of the five groups.

Eligible employees are UND staff employed on a regular basis and not in a probationary status. Those not eligible for consideration include the president, vice presidents, deans, associate and assistant deans, teaching and research faculty, the Human Resources director and any award winners from the previous seven years.

The nomination form is located at: http://und.edu/finance/operations/human-resources/payroll_files/docs/meritorious-award-nomination.pdf. Nomination forms may be completed and submitted online, emailed to und.humanresources@und.edu, printed and mailed to Human Resources Stop 8010 or hand-delivered to Human Resources, Twamley Hall, Room 315.

Nomination forms must be submitted no later than 4:30pm on Friday, April 15, 2016.

Please direct any questions to the Office of Human Resources or Human Resources director and any award winners from the previous seven years.

Innovation at it’s finest: UND Facilities Employee Creates Box Scrapers
Innovation is a driving force of the mechanical world making things work more efficiently and effectively. Nobody knows this better than Byron Anderson. Anderson engineered two box scrapers for the university within the past year. Created from multiple pieces of scrap metal welded together, a 12 foot wide box scraper was made to assist the university with snow removal. The hand-crafted box scraper has the ability to scrape snow closer and more effectively than other manufactured box scrapers we’ve tried.

This winter the Grounds Department found out just how nice it was to have the additional box scraper. Due to mechanical issues and the age of the older box scrapers, occasionally they would break down or need repairs. The additional box scraper served as a great backup, allowing for continuous snow removal on campus when needed.

Anderson also created a smaller box scraper for the Steam Plant to assist with moving coal. The ten foot wide box scraper eventually ended up back in the Grounds Department where it was repurposed for an additional snow removal box scraper.

Anderson’s contributions to the Grounds Department have been great. His engineering is always appreciated, by Facilities and the campus community who value their snow and ice free roads.

Dear Colleagues,
The Spring has definitely sprung. The sky is bluer, the days are longer, birds are chirping, and we are planning what flowers we will plant this season.

I wish UND’s budget situation was as cheery as the spring season. I don’t want to mince words – the university is facing dire conditions. The Governor has indicated that more cuts will be required this year. I do not yet know the full impact on Facilities Department. I know that several of our colleagues have applied for voluntary separation from the university. If their applications are approved, and if they decide to accept the offer, we will lose several long-term, valued colleagues.

The President and Vice Presidents are determined to find the best solution to the budget woes. When they have made their decisions, and I get the information, I will share it with you and discuss the impact on our department.

On one hand, budget cuts are being planned. On the other hand, the Division has launched initiatives to improve the morale. On the face of it, it seems funny, I know. If you think about it, though, we must continue our mission to serve the campus community the best we can. Where would you rather work? In a sad environment, or in a happy, “springy” environment? And each one of us is responsible for bringing a little cheer to our fellow colleagues.

Construction Traffic will be Heavy by Engineering Complex on March 28
Throughout the month of April there will be an increase in construction traffic in the area of the new Collaborative Energy Center (CEC). The most impacted area will be along Campus Road. Trucks will be offloading materials in the westbound lane onto the CEC site periodically from 7 a.m. through 7 p.m. Flaggers will be present to direct traffic around this site.

In addition, the sidewalk that runs between Leonard and Witmer Halls will be closed from Cornell Street to Centennial from 7 a.m. through 7 p.m. Doors from Leonard and Witmer will not be accessible except during an emergency during this time frame. The contractor will be off-loading construction materials onto the new CEC site using a construction crane.

Ramp Energy Project Nearly Complete
The Parking Ramp energy project is nearly complete. New LED motion sensor lighting has been installed throughout the ramp, walkway to the ramp, and the Swanson tunnel. The LED lighting will reduce energy costs and have a longer fixture life.

Consultants to Inspect Campus through May
Facilities Management has hired consultants to inspect campus buildings in order to create a facility energy use assessment. Employees of Amec Corporation will assess the condition of architected, mechanical, and electrical items through campus buildings. We want to make you aware that you may see them in your areas taking notes and pictures for their assessment.

The consultants are wearing name badges and are being escorted by UND staff. The consultants began on March 28th and will be on campus through the end of May. They have begun inspection on twenty academic buildings.

Focus on Facilities

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The UND Steam Plant recently made Grand Forks Herald news. Many of the boilers in the steam plant average around 42 years old and are far past their prime. To update some of the older boilers, it is estimated that the university will need 25 million dollars to execute necessary replacements or repairs. To view the full Herald story, please click the following link: http://www grandforks herald com/new/business/ 3989487 losing steam decades old boilers und need about 20 million replacements.

Supervisors Meet the New Ombudsman and the Safety Award Presented during the March 9th Supervisors Meeting

Henok Elias, the UND Ombudsman, spoke of his role at the university. Henok’s work is to provide staff with options for differences or conflicts in the workplace. He stressed his office is informal and confidential. The ombudsman office is located at 314 Cambridge. He prefers calling for an appointment at 777-6239.

Terry Wynne presented Erik Thorell with the Safety Award for his vigilant attention to safety issues within the buildings he manages.

Upcoming Projects

We are currently working on estimates for upgrades in the following areas:
- Replacement and installation of new light fixtures in Odegard and Strebeli Hall.
- Installation of a vehicle charging station.
- Fargo Med Ed is looking at installing electronic door access.

Projects in progress:
- EE RC building X. W. A. J are having their external fire sprinkler bells changed to horn and strobe.
- Building W, Z, C, D, X & R will also have sprinkler heads repaired.
- Aviation Admin Building (261) is having eight beam detectors replaced and remote test switches installed.
- 2016 Sidewalk repairs — with the spring thaw comes sidewalk repairs.

If you know of any areas where the concrete could use a repair, please contact Dan Kuritz with the location.

Supply Stock

The following parts as of January 15th, 2016 have been depleted to zero and their status has been changed to OTHER. They will no longer be ordered for Supply stock.

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<td>Pump Clean Jet Cleaning Rational 87.00.437</td>
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<td>Transmission Fluid Universal (Quart)</td>
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Nominations took place for Staff Senate members earlier in March and now the time has come to vote! The ballot was sent out April 1st and available for two weeks for voting so that new senators can attend the May meeting. If you would prefer to vote via paper, please do so and return it to Becca by April 15th. Don’t forget to vote!

If you have any questions regarding Staff Senate, please contact Diane Hillebrand at 777-2808, via email diane.hillebrand@med.und.edu, or any staff senate representative.

Employee Engagement Survey

Dear Campus Community:

In the next month, UND will be participating in an employee engagement survey to help us gather feedback to better assess our strengths and areas for improvement and to provide a base for the new president. I would like to share with you the exciting details of this survey.

After considerable research into a variety of employee engagement surveys and processes, University Senate and Staff Senate leadership, in conjunction with Human Resources and Institutional Research, have determined that the most time-efficient and cost-effective way to administer this survey is through “The Great Colleges To Work For” survey process. This survey is conducted by Modern Think LLC for the Chronicle of Higher Education, and is a national survey administered across the country to hundreds of diverse universities. The survey will be open to all participating colleges/universities nationwide beginning March 14, 2016. On that date, a random and representative sample of one thousand (1,000) full-time employees on our campus will be invited to take the survey. Please check your email, as well as your clutter and spam mailboxes, on that date to make sure that if you were randomly selected, you receive the email with the instructions.

The survey will measure the strengths of organizational competencies and relationships that most directly influence an institution’s culture. The results of the survey will be analyzed and aggregated over the summer of 2016 by Modern Think LLC, a research and consulting firm focused on workplace excellence. These results will then be available to our campus in the fall 2016 and will be communicated through a variety of channels of the Staff and University Senators and Human Resources. In addition, The Chronicle of Higher Education will publish aggregate findings from many of the participating schools as part of their Great Colleges initiative.

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Survey to Determine Beneficial and Effective Ways to Train Employees

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