The AVC’s Bullets
By Chris Turletes,
AVC for Facilities & Campus Services

Greeting F&CS Team—

Hopefully spring has sprung by the time you are reading this. I haven’t seen shore birds yet, but “leaf out” is almost always the 14th of May. Winter has been persistent this year. Hopefully that means we will have a glorious summer.

I want to thank everybody for all the hard work that went into keeping the campus humming and blinking this winter and so far this spring. We collectively have been busy with Snow Removal, Campus Clean-up, Commencement support, master planning, final design activities, and the startup of several much needed projects big and small.

Campus navigation will be tougher than normal starting this summer. The Sports Arena is in full stride and will stay that way through the summer of 2014 and work will include the roundabout on Elmore Drive. Other projects scheduled to start this summer include: Allied Health Science Ph 2 & 3. Work begins in May and is scheduled to be done prior to the end of the summer. The new Engineering and Industry Building starts in May and will disrupt parking and vehicle flow in the central parking lot and along Spirit Drive for much of the next 2 years. Our contractor is mindful of UAA's need to access this area and they will do their best keep us operating. Facilities will be moving some of our North Lot storage area to help relieve the parking situation. We will also be working on BMH starting this summer. This is a whole building renewal and will have BMH “off line” for the better part of 2 academic years. John Faunce reviews several of the upcoming projects for this summer in his section.

For UAA Facilities and Campus Services, it is going to be a very busy summer. We have a lot of construction work that is underway or soon to be underway all around the MAU. From the Wellness Center renewal in PWSCC to additions, and the Valley Center for Arts and Learning at MatSu, to Housing and a Career Tech Center at KPC.

I am happy to announce that Doug Markussen the interim Director for EHS/RM has been appointed as the Director, and Tom Sternberg the Interim Director for Facilities Maintenance and Operation has been appointed Director. HOOOOOWL! Since the last Newsletter, Ryan Buchholdt had joined the F&CS staff as Business Manager working on metrics, policy, and customer communications. HOOOWL!

In June we will start planting the campus, finishing the cleanup after the winter, and fixing and maintaining our equipment and buildings that have been running hard or have broken over the winter. It is also the time of year where each of us should enjoy being in Alaska! So as you enjoy Alaska, Be Safe; think about what you are going to do, think about what could go wrong, and have a mitigation plan, let someone know where you are going, and when you are expected back. You are our most valuable resource and we need you fully functional and on the job. I can’t say it enough; the Facilities staff works hard days, nights, and weekends to keep the campus environment safe and comfortable for our students, staff, and faculty. Thanks for all you do for UAA, keep up the great work. HOOOWL!!!

FACILITIES BULLETIN
Spring Edition
May, 2013
Facilities Planning & Construction News
By John Faunce, P.E. Director

It’s Springtime in Anchorage and things are happening all over campus. Did you happen to notice the huge steel structure that is being erected north of our Student Housing Area? This will soon become the new Alaska Airlines Center, formerly known as the Seawolf Sports Arena. Cornerstone General Contractors, Inc. has been working throughout the winter under the watchful eyes of Senior PM Stan Vanover, his faithful sidekick Chris McConnell, and just about everyone else who has ventured into the UMED district. Topping out of the steel structure is scheduled for May 10th to be followed by another extremely busy year of construction, with completion next summer.

Not quite visible yet, but following closely behind the Sports Arena, will be a new 80,000sf, four-story Engineering Laboratory building, to be constructed in the South Parking lot across Providence Avenue from the Health Science Building. Neeser Construction will begin work on this project in May. John Hanson is the UAA Senior Project Manager for this project and will be assisted by Cory Fischer.

FP&C will also be starting up two major renovation projects on the UAA Campus this summer. Patricia Baum will be overseeing the whole-house renovation of Beatrice McDonald Hall as well as Phase 2 of the Allied Health Science renovation. These projects will complete the full renovation of both buildings. Patricia will also be managing the construction of a new Alumni Relations Center at the Consortium Library later this summer.

Kristin Reynolds is managing an ongoing project to replace the security systems at each of the UAA Campus housing units and preparing to get a modified MAC Housing renovation project under construction by Watterson Construction this summer. This project was recently modified to include only critical mechanical heating and other life safety upgrades, while the potential for replacing the MAC Units with modern, higher density housing units is being explored.

After successfully completing the last phase of renovation of the Natural Science Building in time for the Spring Semester, Summer Sauve will be moving the large rocks from the West Campus over to a new Rock Garden this spring as part of the landscaping for the building.

Eric Lopez will be overseeing the relocation of the Mat-Su Greenhouse to a new location next to Gordon Hartlieb Hall, as well as numerous other projects around campus.

For updated information on these and other projects taking place on the UAA Campus this summer, see our 2013 Summer Construction Map on our FP&C Website at http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/fpc/.
Facilities Maintenance and Operations News
By Tom Sternberg, Director of Maintenance and Operations

We are looking forward to summer after a long, icy winter. Although we have not had any major events the last few months, Facilities is busy keeping the buildings comfortable and bright.

We are interviewing for a CT2 Building Automation/Energy Management Technician and hope to fill the position shortly. We will be advertising for a CT3 HVAC technician and a CT3 plumber soon. If you know someone who fits these positions, please encourage them to apply.

News of AiM, we continue to build knowledge of this program’s capabilities. The new version was uploaded without major setback. We are working on generating monthly facility reports, including labor, materials, and utility data to provide the cost of operate each building. Josie Hauer is reworking our old web site. Expect a new look with more photos, current information, and a FAQ section in the near future.

Building Maintenance finished painting the WWA floor and began on the auditorium walls. What a difference this has made. A team of locksmiths, electricians, and IT personnel are tackling the Millennium access system, which we are installing on all exterior doors. UPD will be able to lock down all buildings in an emergency.

The Mechanical/HVAC shop has responded to over 100 leaks since January 1st. The shop also repairs boilers, pumps, and HVAC components on campus. Plumber Kevin McConnell won the Administrative Services employee of the quarter award for the 2nd quarter. Congratulations to Kevin.

The Electrical Shop supported the Robotics Tournament held in the WFSC. As always, they support UAA by maintaining refrigeration, lighting, fire systems, security cameras, and emergency generators as well as repairing power problems. A very busy group.

Snow came later than anticipated, but finished with a heavy dump in April. There were several freeze/thaws creating icy conditions, but the snow team worked through the night or early in the morning to ensure a clean and safe campus. Please take a moment to send a “Thank You” note to let them know you appreciate their hard work and commitment to UAA.

A new shuttle bus arrived in February. The 22 passenger bus was outfitted with the “Amazing Stories” brand, four more have the brand now. Shuttle ridership is slightly down over FY12. The Transportation Supervisor reports 172,845 riders since school began.

Turf and Horticulture are gearing up for spring cleanup of roadways, parking lots, and sidewalks followed by parking lot painting, flower planting, mowing, and sprucing the shrubs beds around campus. This summer, the campus greenhouse will undergo repair of the foundation and structure. The staff is excited about the improvements to come. The project will begin after the growing season and could be completed in the fall.

New hire Chao Vang has 20 years of experience working as a Custodian at the University of Wisconsin. We are excited to work with Chao and feel his experience will be a great asset to the UAA Facilities/Custodial department. Gina Castro, another new hire and wife of Felipe Castro, comes to UAA with extensive background in Customer Service, Office Management and Custodial experience. We feel her background will bring more positive customer relations among the UAA Building Tenants and UAA’s Facilities Shops.
Environmental Health & Safety News

By Doug Markussen, Director

Environmental Health & Safety has had a very busy Spring.

Staff: We have a new addition to our team: Gabe Pierce, our student worker. He is enrolled in the Civil Engineering program and provides enthusiastic and energetic support to our staff.

Hazmat: In addition to our routine hazard waste management services to the campus, EHS had occasion to respond to two incidents. Fortunately, circumstances provided positive outcomes. Within one week’s time calcium carbide and osmium tetroxide contaminations occurred. Immediate and appropriate response averted more serious consequences and many good lessons were learned. One such lesson was that we need to get better control over our chemical and hazard materials inventories. Toward that end, we are in the process of setting up a program to track acquisition, storage, and disposal of such. This program will affect UAA’s main campus and most of the community campuses as well.

Other Activities: EHS is also regularly involved with various safety related committees around campus, working on updating numerous policies and procedures. We have also been doing monitoring and testing of air quality and noise exposure around campus. In between all this we have managed to make Assistance Visits to all of our community campuses to perform inspections and do training.

Training: In addition to routine EHS training (ergonomic, new employee orientation, risk management, fire extinguisher, rental car, etc.), we hosted system-wide training sessions in Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) and Insurance Brokerage and Coverage. We were privileged to get Dorothy Gjerdrum, an internationally recognized expert in ERM, to present on the subject. We also enjoyed presentations by representatives from Gallagher and Associates, our insurance brokers, and United Educators, our insurance carrier. Additional related training will be offered in the future; you are encouraged to attend. Training is an important element to the safety culture. The graphic above shows we have come a long way with safety training in our MAU. EHS would like to remind every employee of their obligation to take the required safety training on Skillsoft. As an alternative, our staff is always available to provide in-person training – just let us know of your needs.
Sustainability News
By Paula Williams, PhD, Director

There are two new faces in my office. Well, sort of. You have probably met Theresa Cho. And if you have not, you certainly have seen her since she is featured on one of the banners lining Providence Drive. She has worked in Sustainability for a few years as a Research Technician and I am happy to announce that she has taken the position as my Administrative Assistant. My ex-Recycling Director, Oliver, has taken his dream job at KRUA and my new recycling director is Anthony Malapanis. Please welcome Anthony and Theresa!

In another exciting development, the Chancellor’s Office has been certified as a green office, with the highest level of certification. The office earned innovation points for digitally generating, distributing, and filing their documents as much as possible; they advertise carpooling opportunities whenever they travel to an office function; and they distribute a green newsletter to their staff letting them know how they can save energy and other resources, and in the process, save money.

In case you are not aware, UAA, including housing, paid about $5.25 million in electricity and gas bills in fiscal year 2012. When screen savers are left on, space heaters used unnecessarily, and lights left on in classrooms and offices, this runs our utility costs up for no reason. If we are more aware of our behaviors, the money saved could be used to make further energy efficiency improvements to lower our utility bills even more.

Earth Week events occurred April 22nd through 24th. On Monday, in collaboration with the USUAA Sustainability Committee, we showed the movie *Kilowatt Ours*. I hope you were able to attend. The movie showed how to save money by replacing light bulbs, installing programmable thermostats, increasing insulation, and other methods. Representatives of Alaska Energy Authority, Lime Solar, Renewable Energy Alaska Project (REAP) attended for a panel discussion about the importance of conserving energy and using renewable energy sources.

Finally, the student Sustainability Club and our office featured *Trashed* starring Jeremy Irons on April 24th. This movie discussed the implications of our throw-away culture and the benefits of reducing, reusing, and recycling. I hope you joined us for one or all of the events.

I am currently working on our carbon emission report for FY 2012, which is due to the American College and University Climate Commitment folks by May 15. I appreciate your help in putting this report together. One great piece of news is that you, Facilities workers, reduced UAA’s consumption of natural gas by about 202,000 Ccf last year! YEA YOU! This reduction is important because Anchorage may begin to import LNG in order to meet its heating and electricity demand, which will be much more costly than our current natural gas reserves. The more we conserve, the less likely it is that we will need to import this gas.

On April 23rd, we hosted the second annual EcoChic Fashion Show in collaboration with the USUAA Sustainability Committee. Students sported fashionable outfits found at thrift or consignment stores or made from materials that would have gone to the landfill. Audri, KRUA station manager, DJed the event.
Heather Burns, 2013 Chili Champion

Upcoming Events

April 27 – Heart Run
April 27-May 3 – Finals
May 4-5 – Commencement weekend
May 8 – Building Manager and Safety Co-coordinators
  Meeting ISB120 9am
May 10 – Top Out for Sports Arena
May 14 – Staff Development Day
May 25-27 – Memorial Day Weekend
June 1-5 – WACUBO support (Ryan/Alana/CMT staffing)
June 6-7 – BOR Meeting in Fairbanks
June 11-13 – Tree planting date on Kenai (2000 trees)
June 14 – Admin Services Picnic
June 18 – Juneteenth Celebration (Support)
June 20-21 – Mayor’s Marathon Support
June 24-28 – Last week of the FY
July 4-7 – Fourth of July Weekend
July/Aug – Facilities Picnic – TBD

Our new plumber, Stephanie Grant, helping out with Campus Clean-up

Hails
Chao Vang – Custodial
Gina Castro – Custodial
Janeen Herr – Trans
Stephanie Grant – Plumbing
Ryan Bucholdt – Business Manager

Fairwells
Mike Law – HVAC
Mark Chase – Plumbing
Daniel Ackerman – HVAC

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Safety is Everybody’s Business