



The Facilitator

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Special Place and Special Time! *By Ramesh Vakamudi*

First ...congratulations to Regina Anderson, Mohammad Hossain, Fred Holder and Jeanie Wright for being finalists at the Finance and Administration Rewards and Recognition event.

During this Centennial Year we continue to make significant progress. We successfully managed the renovation of the 100 Auburn Avenue building which was opened on August 15th by President Becker, Mayor Kasim Reed and Ambassador Andrew Young. This building is now home to the Welcome Center and Honors College and by the end of the year, the Offices of the President, Provost and other Vice Presidents will be relocated from Dahlberg Hall to the fifth floor of 100 Auburn Ave.

The ground breaking ceremony for the new College of Law building took place on September 15, 2013 and was attended by President Becker, State of Georgia Speaker of the House David Ralston, Mayor Kasim Reed, Chancellor Huckaby, State of Georgia Supreme Court justices, and several hundred distinguished guests. It is scheduled for completion by July 2015. We also met the deadline for an aggressive schedule and completed renovation of the 6th, 8th, 9th and 10th floors of One Park Place to provide additional space to the School of Public Health, College of Education and Department of Development.

It has been a very busy summer for Maintenance and Operations. Since July 2013 they received 6,996 work order requests and have completed 6,361 of those requests.

Following President Becker's vision for Campus Greenway, we will soon start planning for the demolition of Kell Hall. It will be the first step towards transformation of the campus core and implementation of the 2012 Campus Master Plan.

As you can see, we continue to play a very big role in the expansion, transformation, and operations of Georgia State University. I am extremely proud of all our accomplishments. A big thank you to the entire Facilities Management team for your dedication, contributions, and hard work!

Inside this issue:

<i>Special Place and Special Time!</i>	1
<i>An Interview with Evelyn Wilcher</i>	1
<i>Training on the Go</i>	2
<i>What's Up With MRRF?</i>	2
<i>New Employees</i>	2
<i>GSU Law School Groundbreaking</i>	3
<i>Save the Date</i>	3
<i>Congratulations</i>	4
<i>Energy Saving is Saving Money</i>	4

An Interview with Evelyn Wilcher *by Karen Stark*

1. What is your current position with GSU?
Senior Project Superintendent in the Renovations Dept.
2. What do you do on a typical day?
On a typical day, I supervise foreman/carpenter III on projects, I meet with vendors/contractors, review bids, order materials, submit quotes and invoices in Panthermart, attend meetings and handle other administrative duties.
3. How long have you worked here?
I have been working within the State System for 23 years. I started at KSU as a part time Drafter while I was still in college at Southern Poly. I have been working at GSU for 20 years.
4. What is your favorite thing about working at GSU?
I love the GSU Family atmosphere, meeting new people and the urban environment!
5. What do you like to do on week-ends?
On the weekends, I love to spend time with my family. I am an original Georgia Peach so my immediate family is here ATL and we are always getting together to celebrate something.



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6. What is your favorite meal?
My favorite meal is anything Italian...pasta, pizza, pasta, seafood, garlic bread, ...and did I mention pasta?
7. What is your dream vacation?
Hawaii for two weeks with my husband, Victor and daughter, Aniyah.



Coming soon.....

Preventing **Harassment, Forklift Safety, Arc Flash Training, Defensive Driving, Van Driving**
Training Tuesday for 2nd & 3rd shift employees
Email Kevin at kchappell@gsu.edu for details

What's up with MRRF? *By Jeannie Wright*

MRRF is short for **M**ajor **R**epair and **R**enovation **F**unds. If you work in the maintenance area, chances are you are quite familiar with MRRF. For those new to our ranks or who haven't had the pleasure of working on MRRF projects, here is a MRRF overview.

Major Repair and Renovation Funds are requested annually from the Board of Regents by all colleges and universities in the University System of Georgia. The Regents' vote on the lists and then gives each campus a portion of the requested funds. Because we have so many aging buildings here at GSU with repair and renovation needs, it is financially impossible to fund all the projects on the GSU list.

The list of projects is compiled by our ever vigilant Maintenance and Operations folks. It is also reviewed in-house with Design and Construction Services, Facilities Planning and the AVP. The list then goes to a campus committee comprised of faculty and staff for comments and approval. The projects are then ranked based on how critical the need is. Although it seems like every project is critical and should be a priority, they are prioritized based on the exact nature of the critical need. As zone chief Kipp Yates stated, "If a system is getting ready to fail, we like to see that project at the top of the list!"

Because our mission is to provide a safe and functioning environment to the students, faculty and staff, we have to ensure that we stay on top of our maintenance and repair needs. If we did not receive the state MRRF funds, well... there would be a lot more headaches and BC Powder needed for our tireless and dedicated zone personnel. Keep up the great job guys and gals!



New employees, August—October 2013

Building Services: Linda Banks, Robert Caldwell, Shawntel Gerbier, Willie Graves, Gerald Merritt, Dyren Morris, Kimberly Smith, Roshell White, Jaola Williams

Design & Construction: Suzanne Dunn, Kerry Farr



GSU Law School Groundbreaking *by Bob Toomy*

On September 15, 2013, the ground-breaking ceremony was held for the new GSU Law School building. The ceremony was held on site at the corner of Park Place and John Wesley Dobbs, part of the downtown campus of GSU. Several hundred attendees listened and watched as President Mark Becker, Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed, Georgia Speaker of the House, David Ralston, Board of Regents Chancellor, Hank Huckaby, and Law School Dean, Steven Kaminshine all gave short speeches about the importance of the new Law School building to the Georgia State University community followed by a ceremonial digging of the first shovel full of dirt.

The new Law School will be approximately 200,000 square feet in size and a total of seven stories tall. The exterior will be modern in design with a façade that will be primarily glass along with a mixture of masonry and steel. The interior design will be sleek and light-infused, with a major focal point being a soaring three-story atrium in the main public space.

The building layout and functions have been planned to incorporate the latest law school designs from around the country. The building will include a full-scale mock court room, a large conference space, an international arbitration center, a two story law library, as well as offices, classrooms, seminar rooms, and other support areas. The overall intent is to make the GSU Law School one of the premier law instructional facilities in the nation.

A large team has been assembled in order to make this project a reality. Anja Matthews of GSFIC is the overall project manager. Teresa Hegarty of GSU's Design and Construction Services is the project manager and handles most of the day-to-day work on the project. Stevens and Wilkinson Architects leads the design team and the construction manager-at-risk is McCarthy, Inc. The project is anticipated to take approximately 18 months for actual construction and the goal is to have the building operational in time for classes in the summer/fall of 2015. The building is also slated to achieve LEED Silver status.

We are extremely excited about the growth and expansion taking place here at GSU. The addition of the new Law School building will add even more value to our nationally recognized law program and strengthen the law community.

Save the Dates!

Benefits Fair: Friday, November 8th

Benefits Open Enrollment: November 11th—22nd

Facilities Holiday Luncheon (Patton Hall): Wednesday, November 20th



CONGRATULATIONS



Career Advancement:

Allen Thomas – Assistant Zone Chief, Zone 5

Energy Saving is Saving Money by Fred Holder

It's no doubt that energy conservation is a hot topic and here at Georgia State University we are doing it right. In fact, we are doing such a good job of reducing our energy usage that according to a recent Board of Regents study, out of the four research universities in Georgia, we ranked No. 1 in having the lowest energy consumption in 2011. With several aging buildings and a sprawling urban campus, this is truly an amazing accomplishment. How did we manage to receive such an impressive rating? It's all attributed to lots of hard work from our extremely talented staff, countless hours of studies, and careful manipulation of the systems that consume our energy. Here are a few of the initiatives that are being implemented at GSU and ways in which they reduce our energy usage.

One of our current energy reduction projects is upgrading our lighting. By replacing the existing exterior lighting with new LED technology, we cut our power usage for each light by 35%-50%. This also improves lighting and helps increase campus safety. This project is currently underway and should be completed soon. We are also replacing interior lights from high energy usage T-12 lamps to lower energy longer life lamps of the T-8 and T-5 types. These lamps not only use less energy, but also emit cooler wavelengths of light and last much longer than their counterparts.



Another energy saver being implemented is temperature sensor monitors. With these in place, you no longer have to go across your office to adjust the temperature on the thermostat. The sensor in your office reports back to a specialized computer that tells the heating and air conditioning system the temperature the room needs to be and automatically makes the adjustment. This helps us maintain a consistent temperature throughout the campus buildings. During the spring and fall, the heating and cooling system uses what is commonly called "free cooling". This is the process of using the outside air to cool the water in the chilled water system which eliminates the need to run the chillers and achieves the desired temperature in the buildings.

The largest energy saver by far is the implementation of Variable Speed Drive (VSD) controls on our exhaust fans, cooling towers, and air handlers. Recently, a comparison study was done at the

Natural Science Center (NSC) on the amount of energy used in the operation of the many exhaust fans versus the amount actually needed to safely operate the fans. The study showed that we could run the fans at 80% speed and still meet the legal exhaust requirements for a science building. This reduction in speed saves 50% in energy costs on exhaust fan usage for NSC. We are now implementing VSD's in other areas such as the Petite Science Building where we are projected to save almost 30% on energy cost by controlling the fan usage. That's just over \$100,000 in savings!!

As you can tell there are numerous ways we are cutting back on energy costs and usage but we can't do it alone. Here are ways you can help. Remember to shut down the computer and turn off your lights when you leave your office for the day or the weekend. And please... whatever you do, don't run a space heater. They counteract the energy savings we are so desperately trying to manage. When you use a space heater, you are warming the air in the office which signals to the thermostat that the room is too warm. This signals the AC system to send more cool air to your office which will only make you colder. It becomes a never ending cycle. Instead, bring a sweater and call maintenance at 3-0700 to ask for a temperature adjustment in your office. Our talented and professional team of technicians will be happy to assist you.

In the next Facilitator, we will look at each team and their role in energy conservation starting with the Engineering and Utilities department.