When I started at BYU 15 years ago I was amazed at the size of the fleet and the variety and types of vehicles and equipment that were used here, I am still amazed. From the sixth grade on, I worked for several farmers in Utah and Idaho and learned how to operate multiple types of equipment. I also learned that when equipment breaks down, the operator is the one that gets to repair it, at least that is how it worked on the farm. Repairing things became a necessity for me at home as well, since my mother’s car was old and not dependable. As I advanced to Jr. High School I learned to weld and made a very crude mini-bike with some pipe and a lawn mower engine. That was my starting point for fabricating recreational vehicles. Since then, I have built several vehicles and, after the mini-bike experience, have now included brakes. Soon thereafter diesel engines attracted my interest with their size, power, noise and economy. I pursued that direction in college and during my next 23 years of employment until given the opportunity to come to BYU. Having worked with people and firms from all over North America, I have learned to really appreciate the environment that our workers create at BYU. It is enriching to work alongside people that still care, dream and have such a wide variety of talents and passions. We are all blessed to be able to further the work at BYU.

The Campus Drive Redesign project includes the realignment and closure of a portion of BYU’s East Campus Drive in an effort to unify campus and create a safer, more pedestrian-friendly environment. The construction of the project has been divided into three phases, each being limited to the Spring and Summer school terms. The complete project will be finished by August 2015. The planning and design for the first phase of the project has been completed and it is now under construction. The major elements of the first phase include the closure of East Campus Drive from Heritage Drive to 1060 North which is just south of the Wilkinson Student Center (WSC), demolition of the pedestrian overpass bridge and the connecting raised patio at the J. Reuben Clark Building (JRCB), the addition of a pedestrian plaza connecting the JRCB to the central quad of campus, a new vestibule for the west side of the JRCB and a passenger drop-off zone on the east side of the JRCB. The east entrance of the WSC will also have a new canopy along with a roundabout which will provide a large passenger drop-off zone. The roundabout will facilitate vehicular traffic movement from the WSC down the remaining portion of East Campus Drive to the south and connect to 900 North. The newly created road to the east, connecting East Campus Drive with 900 East, will be called Campus Lane. Visitor parking will be located south of Campus Lane and will accommodate approximately 60 additional stalls. BYU and Provo City have partnered to design and construct the new intersection at Campus Lane & 900 East to accommodate changes in the flow of vehicular traffic.
Thinking Interdependently

Ole M. Smith - AAVP Physical Facilities

One of the key principles of any successful enterprise is the ability of its people to think in the context of “we” instead of “me.” When individualist thinking is the norm, personal preferences, perceived paradigms and we’ve-always-done-it-that-way thinking get in the way of growth and improvement. Yet, when interdependent thinking becomes the model, an organization starts to discern what is best for the institution as a whole and teamwork improves, performance is enhanced, synergistic thinking becomes the norm and the decision-making process is enriched. As an organization, Physical Facilities is committed to thinking, planning and working interdependently. If you have suggestions that will help us, please let me know. Contact me at 801-422-5500 or ole_smith@byu.edu

NEW EMPLOYEES

We extend a warm welcome to the following new employees who recently joined our Physical Facilities team.

Matthew Johnson - Business Support
John Lineback - Facilities Planning
Alecia Garzand - AAVP’s Office
Jeremy Crow - Custodial/Special Events
Joel Hughes - Information Support
Christopher Coward - Custodial/Special Events
Michael Black - Landscape
Terra Larsen - Custodial/Special Events
Bret Rowley - Electrical Shop
Elisabeth Pletsch - Plant & Floral

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT RETIREES

Larry Banks - Warehouse
Gordon Nichol - Carpenter Shop
John Cowan - Construction
Paul Reese - Facilities Planning
Mark Carter - Electrical Shop
Jimmy Cruz - Custodial/Special Events
Terry Shepherd - Custodial/Special Events

INTERNAL PROMOTIONS

Gregory Sulik - Electrical High Voltage Liaison
Matt Erwin - Custodial Repair Supervisor
Clayton Harrison - Custodial Repair Mech/Welder
Kenneth Clark - Electrical Maintenance Lead
Keith Robertson - Custodial Repair Supervisor
Madison Butterfield - Janitorial Lead
Dennis Crawford - Custodial Repair Mechanic

Elevator Lead - Promoted from Cat II
Electrical Projects Lead - Promoted from Cat II

SERVICES WITH EXCELLENCE

APRIL

Dee Christensen
Dee has been working for BYU for a total of eight years. She started in Financial Aid and then transferred to Physical Facilities where she has worked for five and a half years providing secretarial support to Buildings, Grounds, and Transportation Services. She tells us that she loves her job and the people she works with in Physical Facilities. She is a Paralegal by trade and loves to do research and writing. Her favorite activity is spending time with family, especially grandchildren. She also enjoys reading, and her favorite outdoor activity is fishing. She loves being outdoors.

MAY

Craig Larsen
Craig grew up in Ephraim, Utah working on the family farm. He served in the Florida Mission and attended Snow College and BYU. He’s worked for BYU Physical Facilities Custodial for 28 years. Craig is an assistant to Ballard Pead and serves as chairman for the equipment and chemical committees and as the safety officer. He married his wife, Kathleen, in 1967 and they celebrated their 46th wedding anniversary in June. They have four children and 16 grandchildren with one on the way. He enjoys spending time with his family, camping, gardening and working with the youth of the church.

JUNE

Joseph Beck
Joseph began working as a construction coordinator in August 2012. He grew up in Alpine, Utah and spent hours working and playing on his grandparents’ farm. He still enjoys hauling hay, mending fences, and tending and riding horses, as well as camping, jeeping and gardening. He’s also an accomplished musician, both playing and teaching the piano. He graduated from BYU’s Construction Management program in 2003 and has worked in the construction industry ever since. He currently lives in Pleasant Grove with his wife, Andrea, and their four children.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

Tayla Wells
Tayla is from Provo, Utah. She is considering majoring in Exercise Science. Her hobbies include hiking, swimming, running, water polo and art. Tayla is on the custodial crew at the Harris Fine Arts Center and is an employee anyone would love to have. She is dependable, conscientious, thorough and is always found anxiously engaged and extremely productive. She is on time and rarely has an absence which makes her a joy to employ and a valued member of the staff. Tayla is leaving on an LDS mission to Chicago and will be sorely missed.
Shop Highlight

Motor Pool

The BYU Motor Pool was organized in 1978 to consolidate all BYU vehicles into one organized fleet. It manages all BYU vehicles including department vehicles, service vehicles, athletic vehicles, the vehicle rental fleet, Grounds department equipment, the Missionary Training Center fleet and all Motion Picture Studio vehicles and equipment.

The BYU fleet travels over 4.1 million miles per year and uses an average of over 1400 gallons of fuel (gas and diesel) each day. Vehicle Rental employs 15% of all BYU vehicles but accounts for 65% of the miles for the entire fleet.

The Motor Pool has been managed by Kent D. Flack for over 32 years and he was instrumental in the design and development of the Motor Pool computerized program.

Motor Pool does all the licensing, quarterly fuel reports and monthly vehicle reports for each department. Municipalities have since duplicated this program.

Physical Facilities Student Scholarships

Three years ago the Physical Facilities Scholarship Fund began. In 2010 and 2011 your generous contributions provided each of seven students with a $1,000 scholarship to help fund their college education. In 2012 your contributions grew significantly allowing us to increase the number of students receiving a scholarship to eight. Three years and $22,000 later, your contributions have helped 22 deserving Physical Facilities student employees. One recipient of the award had this to say:

"Thank you so much for your generous donation to help me continue my education. I feel honored to receive such an award. Physical Facilities has become like a family to me and I feel very blessed to be a part of it. Thank you so much for all that you do and for making us students feel so appreciated!"

The Grounds department was also able to award six scholarships to their students this year. We would like to congratulate this year’s scholarship recipients and thank the many employees who have so generously contributed of their funds to make this program such a success!

Physical Facilities Student Scholarship

2013 Recipients

Mackenzie Carlisle
Alynn Basden
Madison Johnson
Holly Black

Building Services
Custodial / Special Events
Custodial / Special Events

Weston Hatfield
Matthew Killian
Rudy Wright
Sarah McKneely

Electrical Shop
Moving
Facilities Planning
Space Management

Gardening
Site Development
Office Secretary

Levi Johnson
Seth Munger
Serenity Olsen (not pictured)

Site Development
Landscape Specialty
Gardening

BYU FLEET:
Travels over 4.1 million miles per year.
Uses an average of 1400 gallons of fuel per day.
The BYU Physical Facilities Division employs 1,562 students to work in various shops and departments on campus. The annual Student Appreciation Lunch, which was hosted and served by managers and directors, is a way to show Physical Facilities students how much they are appreciated for all their hard work during the year. Thank you to everyone who put in time and work so all Physical Facilities employees could enjoy a delicious lunch.