Last summer East Campus Drive was closed between Heritage Drive and Campus Lane in order to tie in the J. Reuben Clark Building (JRCB) to the main campus while making it more pedestrian friendly. This road closure also provided for the extension of the quadrangle between the Wilkinson Center (WSC) and the Harris Fine Arts Center (HFAC) and the main West entrance to the JRCB creating a desirable greenway and visual connection between them all.

The transition from the upper open space to the lower front plaza of the JRCB is created with a sloped grass area and concrete steps surrounded by a mix of flowering and non-flowering shrubs. The elevation change between the grass area and the plaza surface is accomplished with a curved concrete seating wall. Students and visitors are welcomed to use this grass area as an outdoor study and social space. The new curved concrete seating wall gives a sense of physical separation between the users need for private and public space. The plaza between the wall and main west entrance of the JRCB is a combination of standard concrete pavers with each defining a separation of the users.

The new JRCB plaza provides a place for picnic tables with benches and patio umbrellas. The concrete is central to the plaza and creates an area for temporary tents, tables/chairs, and displays for any special events. The north end of the JRCB plaza is sloped naturally and allows for a new cascading water feature. This new water feature will be joined to the existing falls and stream from the bell tower while continuing along the west side of the JRCB. The sound of water will enhance the use of space and the introduction of new landscape boulders and plantings will tie this feature to the rocky mountain setting. The concrete mini-plaza near the terminus of the waterfall creates a place for sitting, gazing and studying.

The south end of the new gathering space is a vehicular traffic roundabout intended for pedestrian drop-offs and pickups. The new landscape in the roundabout offers a focal point from Campus Lane and East Campus Drive during the daytime, while spotlights are installed under the tree canopies for an eye-catching view of the sightlines in the evening. The new drop-off canopy provides cover and protection from inclement weather and lighting for the safety of passengers while transitioning to waiting vehicles or arriving for special events on campus.

The completion of this project has provided new open spaces to the plazas, a water feature, and an ease of flow for pedestrians and service access, as well as a “welcome mat” to the internal function of both the WSC and the JRCB. Any day of the year, come and enjoy the diversity of this new corner and gateway of the BYU Campus.
Director's Message

The Physical Plant Custodial Department has the responsibility to clean and keep clean the academic and athletic buildings on campus. There are 107 full-time supervisors and 900 students who serve the patrons and students of Brigham Young University.

Many organizations across campus have dubbed us “the eyes and ears of campus”. Our people know each building thoroughly so that when a problem arises they can direct the safety personnel to the exact spot. Because of this service, we feel that our campus is much safer for all of us.

In addition to our cleaning work, we assist with the set-up and takedown of all scheduled events, church activities, sporting events, special courses and conferences. We also help with campus-wide programs such as Education Week, Scout-a-Rama, CES Conference, Women’s Conference, University and High School graduations.

Half of the Custodial supply budget is spent on paper products that are used across campus. Here are some interesting statistics about the paper product usage, specifically, toilet paper, on campus: the Harold B. Lee Library uses 4.2 miles per day. Football games use 36 miles per home game. Basketball games use 18 miles per home game.

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Ballard Pead

Custodial & Special Events Director

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Lisa Ward is a warm, friendly and knowledgeable Assistant Office Specialist in Facilities Planning & Construction and has worked there for two years. She received her BS Degree from BYU. She met her husband, Ben (who works in BYU’s Carpenter Shop) at a friend’s game night playing Cranium. They currently live in Spanish Fork. She enjoys carpooling to work with her husband, working and laughing with great people and likes her new standing desk. Lisa benefits from physical therapy in the Richard’s Building pool, enjoys increasing her knowledge by taking classes and workshops, and helps to organize lunch parties to get to know more co-workers. She is a great person and a pleasure to work with.

Ransford James Sorensen was born in Provo, Utah but grew up in Springville, Utah. Ransford currently lives in Spanish Fork with his four children: Ransford Jeffie (24, currently attending BYU, recently returned from serving a mission in Auckland, New Zealand), Seth (18, a senior at Payson High School), Taya Sue (13), and TJ (12). Ransford has been working at BYU for 12 1/2 years and currently works in Moving Services where he enjoys serving people and working with the students. His co-workers know he is a hard worker in any kind of weather and will do whatever it takes (even staying all night) to get a job done. During the fall, Ransford also works as a hunting guide at Wasatch Wing and Clay. He enjoys being in the mountains, and loves hunting pheasants with his yellow lab, Clipper, and fishing. He likes baseball, especially when his son, Seth, is pitching, and keeps his eye on BYU’s Rugby team. He is always talking about his family and his love for them shows. Ransford is caring, understanding, is always happy and has a great sense of humor.

Seth Munger was born in Provo, Utah and grew up in Lehi. He and his wife, Chelsea, currently live in Provo with their 16-month-old son, Van. Seth will be graduating from BYU at the end of June in Manufacturing Engineering Technology. He’s worked on the pesticide crew, crews covering both the track & soccer field and LaVell Edwards Stadium, and worked as a manager for the football team. He is the person responsible for the paint artistry at the women and men’s soccer and other athletic fields. Seth enjoys working with so many great people and loves the sense of accomplishment he gets after painting a field on game day. He sees ways to improve job performance and takes the initiative with his indomitable optimism. Seth loves to invent and make anything he can; he likes biking, kayaking, snowboarding and art. He is a hard-working, dependable and productive employee, but more importantly, he is a fine person with a great personality and a perpetual smile.
Structural Engineering is a relatively recent addition to the in-house engineering services provided to the campus community. Richard Nelson is the first and only in-house structural engineer that BYU Physical Facilities has employed. He joined the design team in 1990. Richard also has a background in architecture and provides services both as a structural engineer and architect on numerous campus projects.

The primary role of the campus structural engineer is to ensure that the integrity of existing structural systems for campus facilities are maintained and improved and that new structures are designed in accordance with the building code. All campus remodeling plans are reviewed by the structural engineer to verify that the remodeling work does not compromise existing structural elements. If modifications to the structural members are necessary, then the structural engineer is responsible to design the structural modifications to comply with the building code. The BYU structural engineer works closely with consulting engineers on the design of new campus facilities and verifies that the proposed structural systems are appropriate for the intended use of the facility. He also works closely with the Utilities Engineering group to assist with the structural support of new mechanical and electrical equipment and various site-related improvements.

The structural engineer is constantly fielding requests from the campus community about the possibilities of supporting heavy items on existing floor and roof structures. The variety of these requests include everything from scoreboards to window washing equipment to high tech laboratory equipment to massive art sculptures. There are also many requests for evaluating heavy equipment loads such as construction cranes, concrete trucks, fire trucks and dump trucks which must navigate to the interior of campus in order to complete work that needs to be done. There are many underground tunnels, vaults and other structures that must be evaluated in order to determine if the structures can support the weight of these large pieces of equipment. Some of these heavy vehicles weigh more than 40 tons. Perhaps the most unusual request that the structural engineer has received was to evaluate the possibility of hanging a large dinosaur bone from a steel cable that spanned the football stadium. A documentary was being filmed and the producers wanted the viewers to see the scale of this large bone in relation to the football stadium.

BYU’s structural engineer works closely with the Physical Facilities’ shops to assist them with structural related issues such as the frequent necessity of drilling holes through structural elements in order to run electrical or IT conduits. Richard appreciates the support and cooperative attitude that he receives as he works with the various shops. The Physical Facilities shop personnel are outstanding in their fields of expertise and he feels it a privilege to work with them. As the Structural Engineer, Richard is also responsible for the seismic assessment and seismic improvements to existing campus facilities. Seismic Engineering is a relatively new science and has only been included as part of the building code for the past 50 years. In 1991 a comprehensive seismic evaluation of existing campus buildings was undertaken using an established procedure developed by FEMA. He says, “I think it is important to see that summertime has arrived, not because most students are gone and not because EFY kids are everywhere but because large portions of campus are clearly under construction. One of BYU Physical Facilities’ biggest challenges is to minimize the inconveniences of construction wherever possible. We try to do that by squeezing as many projects as possible into the four-month window of mid-April to mid-August. It’s easy to do with a three or four-month project but when the work should take five, six, seven or even eight months of normal construction, we challenge ourselves to compress it into that same four month summertime window so that campus is inconvenienced as little as possible. It isn’t easy. In fact, it makes for long, hard, hot days for many….but as summer winds down, and our labors come to a close, it is satisfying to see how much can be done with incredible people and dedicated contractors.

To all those employees who strive to give their very best each day and live up to our motto of “Service with Excellence,” I express my heartfelt thanks. Also, to all on campus who patiently live through and work around all the construction, I express my gratitude for your understanding. We’re all doing our part to make campus a bit better each year.
Congratulations to our SAERA Recipients

Darrin Haun  Competency
Christine Burnett  Exceeding Customer Expectations
Dell Peterson  Exceeding Customer Expectations
Chris Pusey  Exceeding Customer Expectations

New Employees

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

Russell Nielson  Electrical Shop
Dylan Graff  Site Development
Jared Osborn  Electrical Shop
Carolyn Crawford  Planning
Slade Buhler  Site Development

Internal Promotions

Cory Muhlestein  Custodial/Special Events
Jonathan Quist  Landscaping Specialty
Tyson Ricks  Site Development
Andrew Manning  Landscaping Specialty
Michael Powell  Landscaping Specialty
William Rudy  Landscaping Specialty
Max Darrington  Landscaping Specialty
Jared Myers  Landscaping Specialty
Paul Slagowski  Access Services
Robert Qualls  Transportation Services
Matthew Tanner  Gardening Maintenance
Jeffry Tanner  Electrical Shop
Solitu Purcell  Custodial/Special Events

Annual Student Appreciation Lunch

April 17, 2014

The BYU Physical Facilities Division employs 1,420 students to work in various shops and departments on campus. The annual Student Appreciation Lunch is a way to show Physical Facilities students how much they are appreciated for all their hard work during the year. Thanks to JDawgs and to everyone who put in time and work so all our student employees could enjoy a delicious lunch.

2014 Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the 14 Physical Facilities 2014 Scholarship Recipients and thanks to the many employees who have so generously contributed to make this program a success!

Brycen Bingham  Paint Shop
Thomas Eastman  Grounds
Megan Hansen  Upholstery Shop
David Hawks  Grounds
William “Billy” Hiatt  Grounds
David Kingsford  Auxiliary Services
Matthew Merrill  Central Heating Plant
Russell Nelson  Grounds
Isai Oliveros  Custodial
Adeline Quackenbush  Custodial
Joshua Quiet  Grounds
Erin Ray  Moving
Alan Turnblom  CNA
Steven Zimmerman  Electrical Shop

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