After much anticipation, the new University Guest House opened for business at the first of the year. Thanks to a generous donation, this beautiful new addition to campus will serve as lodging for official guests of the university.

The exterior of the house was designed to complement the adjacent Former President’s Home, while also seeking to provide a new, fresh look to help tie in the historical buildings in that area of campus to adjoining areas. The result is a handsome brick structure built in the Tudor style. The interior finishes are of a higher end, and include alder hardwood trim and cabinetry, red oak floors, granite countertops, and wood shutters at all the windows.

The Guest House features five different suites. Three of the suites have sitting rooms separate from the bedrooms, lending to an apartment style feel, while two of the suites are in a studio style. Every suite includes its own wet bar, microwave, toaster, mini refrigerator, and flat screen TV with DVD player. The suite on the ground floor is compliant with ADA codes and regulations. Each suite also affords a commanding view of either the mountains, the valley, or both.

In addition to the suites, the house includes a common sitting room where continental breakfast is served, a formal dining room, and a small service kitchen. The common sitting room features a fireplace and a flat screen TV. The formal dining room opens up onto a backyard patio and beautifully landscaped yard. The yard is fully enclosed by an ornamental fence, which will afford visitors a sense of privacy, while allowing them to freely move around outside.

It is anticipated that the new Guest House will become a much used venue by the university’s guests. Indeed, reservations are already booked throughout much of the coming year.
Ben Ward was born in Provo, Utah and grew up in Orem. He has worked for BYU for two years in the Carpenter Shop and loves the people he works with. Ben and his wife, Lisa, who also works at BYU, live in Spanish Fork and commute daily to Provo together. Ben loves woodworking and woodturning. In fact, he went to school to learn how to make violins and string instruments, and has utilized that knowledge to create beautiful furniture and other items that contribute greatly to student and staff enjoyment and learning at the university. Ben also enjoys cycling, basketball, tennis, camping, fishing, bird carving, singing, eating, and the ultimate activity – sleeping. He is an incredibly hard worker, is dedicated and loyal, and is a tremendous asset to BYU.

Ray Maag has worked for BYU for 23 years in the Auxiliary Services Department. He was born and raised in Provo, Utah and now lives in Orem with his wife, Vickie. They have four children and 12 grandchildren. Ray loves snowmobiling, fishing, woodcarving, four-wheeling, woodworking, traveling and hanging out at his cabin. He also loves white-water rafting and for ten years, he’s taken rafting trips down the Colorado River. He has even built his own raft and taken it down the river through the Grand Canyon – a trip lasting 17 days. Ray loves snow sports, watersports and constructing things. He is very friendly and loves to meet new people and enjoys finding out about their life experiences. Ray loves to give service to help others and is always looking for ways he can help build or repair something for someone.

Jocelyn was born and raised in Calgary, AB, Canada. She has worked at BYU for two years in the Planning and Construction department and believes the best part of the job is working with the people there. She also loves feeling that she’s accomplishing something that benefits the university. She and her husband, Kyle, live in Provo and are both students attending BYU. Jocelyn is majoring in Exercise Science and hopes to become a dental hygienist. She’s played high school basketball and still enjoys playing occasionally for fun, loves to dance and to play the piano and violin (which she’s done since the age of five). In the past, she has enjoyed participating in multiple orchestral groups and now, even though she can only play in her free time, says playing music brings a lot of peace to her life. Jocelyn loves to clean and says she would much rather be cleaning something than resting or watching TV. She is a joy to work with and has a very kind and caring personality. She is very dependable and has the responsibility for providing support for all the members of Physical Facilities Planning and Construction.

Thursday, April 16
12:00 - 1:30 p.m.
Ticket Required

PHYSICAL FACILITIES STUDENT APPRECIATION LUNCHEON
The Construction department at BYU consists of six, full-time project managers and one Director. Each individual has different skill sets but all have a common goal: coordinate and complete projects on time, within budget, all while maintaining integrity as they represent the BYU community. Many projects have already been completed or started in 2014. Some of these projects required many months or even years of planning and designing before actual contracts were written and executed. The Monte L. Bean Museum, Life Sciences Building, BYU Nursing Learning Center Remodel, University Guest House, Heritage Housing Phase III and the new University Laundry Building and Auxiliary Services Building were recently completed or are near completion, just to name a few. Many of the duties included in managing the construction process of these projects are: executing the bidding process and writing of contracts, attending weekly construction meetings, coordinating utility outages, coordinating work between the BYU shops and the general contractor, and coordinating the needs of the client (BYU colleges, athletics and other vital services such as campus police). In addition to those duties, a project manager must oversee the processing of all paperwork associated with change orders and monthly pay applications, and ensure all required code inspections are executed and documented. The department collectively has nine state licenses, 24 inspector licenses (disciplines of electrical, plumbing, mechanical, general building, fireproofing, concrete and masonry) and 226 years of experience.

Many Hands Make Light Work, is a saying which has application here at the university. It would not be possible to be successful without the cooperative efforts of Planning/Engineering, Construction, BYU Shops and all of the great clients on BYU’s campus.

The most important skill set of each project manager is the ability to work with contractors on a daily basis. Meetings may be held weekly with the contractor, architect and building occupant personnel to measure the progress of the building within the scheduled time frame. Every month the contractor will submit a pay application for money spent during that period. It is their responsibility to make sure the money released is justified and fair. Inspections are also made daily to ensure quality of the work in progress and conformance to project specifications and drawings.

The department is humbled by the faith and confidence given by church and campus leaders and those who have provided sacred funds to make necessary upgrades to the campus environment. Project managers are continually evaluating costs to ensure they are the best use of money. They feel privileged to be a part of the progress of the university in creating new, exciting, functional and flexible facilities for students, faculty, staff and visitors. It’s especially rewarding to be able to see this growth first-hand!
NEW EMPLOYEES
We extend a warm welcome to the following new full-time employees who recently joined our Physical Facilities Team.
Kelly Jacobson  Special Events
Kevin Hunter  Custodial
Trevor Larsen  Custodial
Jayme Slaughter  Custodial
David Hawks  Landscape Specialty

INTERNAL PROMOTIONS
Wayne Olsen  Carpenter Shop
Lonnie Wilson  Auto Shop

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT RETIREES
Jerry Ferre  Custodial/Special Events
Henry Hertzsch  Landscape Specialty
DeVere Wilkerson  Paint Shop/Signs
Timothy Brough  Mechanical Shop
June King  Auxiliary Custodial
Shirley Van Leuven  Information Support

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SAERA RECIPIENTS
Tegwyn Edward Ellingson  Exceeding Customer Expectations
Leah R Wheeler  Competency
Darren Robert Hinton  Innovation
Jonathan E. Young  Teamwork
Glen Wear  Teamwork
Tyson Ricks  Teamwork
Greg Slack  Integrity
Julie Marini  Exceeding Customer Expectations
Travis Savage  Teamwork

As I wrote this article in early March I looked out my office window and I found myself wondering, what happened to winter? Then within a few minutes, as if on cue, a mid-morning blizzard unexpectedly arrived out of nowhere. What? I thought. Where did this come from? Then, within a few hours, and nearly as fast as it arrived, the storm was gone. Although I’m sure in most ways BYU’s Grounds and Custodial crews are happy to have no snow to plow, yet I also know they have been waiting since early November to put into effect their new collaborative approach to fighting off the effects of Mother Nature’s winter… only to now experience the driest winter in Utah history. Sometimes I think life follows the same pattern. We work, and plan, and study, and prepare and rehearse for something… then it seemingly never arrives, at least until we give up and turn our attention to something else, and then it surprises us. The end result is the same, however. Even though we don’t always know when things are going to come, if we’re prepared, our efforts will not go to waste. As the Physical Facilities Division moves forward in all our labors, every improvement we make, every effort we put forth, and every concept we discover and then enhance, improves us and improves BYU. And that is “Service with Excellence” in action.