Four buildings on campus worthy of notice are located in the new Heritage Housing project. These residence halls, located just north of the existing Heritage Halls on the old Deseret Towers site, but with a much different look than the old Deseret Towers, will house many incoming students as they further their education at BYU. The first two of these buildings are now occupied with two additional buildings scheduled for occupancy in January 2012. The BYU Board of Trustees has also approved four additional buildings to be constructed over the next few years. Some of these buildings will replace part of the aging Heritage Halls complex that was constructed during the 1950’s.

On Saturday, August 20, arriving students started moving into the first two, recently completed, apartment-style housing units. The first building has nearly 86,000 square feet with 43 apartments and 238 women residents. The second building, with 72,000 square feet, has 190 men residents in 35 apartments. Both buildings include a room for ecclesiastical interviews, music practice rooms, a large activity center on the main floor and smaller activity rooms on each floor.

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In an effort to promote our values we have improved and made more efficient a number of campus services. These improved services and efficiencies include:

• electronic signatures on work orders and project approvals
• “service requests” available on the web
• adding job notes to work orders and projects
• customer work order look up
• a simple electronic customer feedback survey to help us know where we can improve
• learning resource modules for improved training
• updated GUI screens
• consolidated procurement and warehouse functions allowing for FTE reallocation.
Innovation

Over the past few months the Physical Facilities Division has been working extraordinarily hard to start, continue managing and complete a number of key campus projects. Our architectural and engineering people have developed and enhanced some great concepts. Our shops have rolled up their sleeves to take on both everyday projects and unexpected emergencies. Construction department coordinators have spent long hours finishing key buildings and getting others started. And no one can miss the beauty of the best looking campus grounds on the continent.

But perhaps the thing that is most gratifying about what is happening in the Physical Facilities arena is the way so many people across campus have been sharing innovative ideas with us. Some ideas have streamlined our procedures, some have eliminated no-longer-necessary processes, some have simplified our labors and some have changed the way we approach our work. I continue to welcome your thoughts, ideas, and any other innovative concept that helps to make us better. Thank you for helping us “Rise Up” as we do our part to make BYU better than ever.

Shop Spotlight
“Transportation Services”

Transportation Services provides vehicle support to BYU as well as the MTC, the Motion Picture Studio, and the LDS Foundation. Fifteen full-time employees work diligently behind the scenes to ensure that our university vehicle fleet is safe, dependable and efficient.

In today’s world of endless new gadgets and rapidly advancing technology, new challenges never cease. The old days of “Mr. Fix it” in a backyard garage are long gone. Now it’s onboard computers, hydraulics, state inspections, emissions testing, air bags, ASE certifications, D.O.T. requirements, warranty criteria, and the list goes on.

Transportation Services is a complex operation that encompasses the Motor Pool, a full-service auto repair shop, an auto body shop, a welding shop and a service station. It’s well honed and runs smoothly, thanks to a dedicated team of specialists who work tirelessly to do whatever it takes to get the job done.

The Motor Pool provides a computerized reporting system and vehicle inventory control for all university-owned vehicles, including life cycling, acquisition estimates, re-sale values, licensing, fuel permits, and vehicle mileage reports. A record of maintenance, repairs, and all other associated costs is maintained within the Motor Pool computer system. Our Vehicle Rental staff stays busy with an average of 35 requests for rentals each day. These rented vehicles travel 3.5 million miles annually.

The full-service repair shop provides maintenance repairs on campus vehicles and equipment, ranging from engine and transmission repairs to brakes, tires, electrical systems, alignments, hydraulics, a/c systems, computer systems, etc. The technicians are ASE certified and state-licensed for inspections and emissions testing. Based upon the certifications of our technicians, the BYU Transportation Department is recognized as a fleet warranty shop for GM vehicles.

The auto body shop offers complete refinishing and is equipped to handle everything from minor dents to major collision repair. Their paint booth is state of the art and color mixing is computerized for an optimal match in all cases.

The welding shop is staffed with two certified welders who make repairs on equipment ranging from snowplows to handrails. The shop is fully equipped with tools necessary for working with metals other than mild steel, such as aluminum, brass, and stainless steel.

The service station staff is responsible for routine maintenance of all vehicles and stays very busy with an average of 130 services provided each month. They also facilitate all of BYU’s surplus vehicle sales.

With the challenge to purchase, service, repair, maintain and re-sell close to 700 vehicles, trucks, tractors, motorized equipment and other implements, the Transportation Services department is always working on something that makes BYU run more smoothly.