

From the Physical Plant Division of the University of Florida - www.ppd.ufl.edu

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In This Issue:

F&A Employee
Appreciation Photos

Benefits Open
Enrollment Begins

OB'Gram: UFCC, A
Worthy Cause

UFCC 2006: A Million And Two Can Happen With You



UFCC Committee members Ashley Jacobs and Mark Ivanowski filling out their pledge cards

The 2006 UF Community Campaign kicks off on September 25th. The UFCC raises money for charity through fundraising events and employee donations, and is the only UF fundraising that can be done through payroll deduction. Money raised goes to organizations that support programs in our local communities.

Physical Plant has always been one of the largest contributors campus-wide, and our employees have gained a reputation for generosity and caring with their donations. Last year PPD raised over \$27,000, and Physical Plant's UFCC team

See UFCC Cont. On Pg. 3

New Assistant Director At HSC



Bruce Bonham has replaced Eric Cochran (now PPD Associate Director of Operations) as the Assistant Director at the Health Science Center. Mr. Bonham comes to the University of Florida from Lee University in Tennessee, where he served as the Director of the Physical Plant for the last seven and a half years.

"I was looking for another job with a physical plant, and I wanted to try a different set of responsibilities than I enjoyed at Lee University," said Mr. Bonham. "I came down and interviewed at UF PPD, and what immediately struck me was the camaraderie that everyone seemed to have here – everyone got along very well and it seemed that management had done a great job of putting the right people in the right roles. That was very enticing to me, and a major reason why I chose to take this job."

Bruce is from Dayton, Ohio and received his bachelor's degree from Grace College, in Indiana, where he also served as Physical Plant Director. "I originally went to Grace College right after high school," he said. "At that time I was working towards a degree in education and a career as a teacher. I was almost done with

college when I realized that the teaching profession just wasn't for me – so I left school and went home, got my Master Electrician's license with the state of Ohio, and began working as a commercial electrician with my father's business. Twenty years later, I was a self-employed electrician (having bought the family business from my father), and was looking for something with a little more stability. I was offered the director's position at Grace College and I accepted it,

See HSC Cont. On Page 4



OB'Gram: UFCC Needs Your Donations

by Dave O'Brien

September 25th – October 7th are the dates of this year's University of Florida Community Campaign. The UFCC is the official charitable giving fundraiser at UF. Through the UFCC, UF employees can give to agencies that offer programs and services to benefit residents of north-central Florida. Employees contributing to the UFCC have the option of making their contributions through payroll deductions. Last year's campaign raised more than a million dollars, and this year's slogan is "***A Million and Two Can Happen With You!***"

Last year's PPD campaign was especially successful. Our participation went up almost 34%, possibly due to a true appreciation of the good work done in our communities by the agencies who receive funding from UFCC. This year, 79 local agencies are eligible to participate in the campaign. An agency's application is reviewed by a committee made up of UF faculty and staff to be approved to participate. A UF employee who decides to donate to UFCC has the option of selecting the agency he or she would like to receive the donation. So this is really a UF effort!

We have a dedicated team of volunteers here at PPD, who will be visiting your departments to talk about the campaign and answer questions. I hope you will find it in your hearts to give generously to help our friends and neighbors in need.

August Communication Breakfast Notes

OB started off the meeting by mentioning that with the new school year comes new opportunities and new challenges for PPD employees. Three new buildings have recently come online – Cancer/Genetics, the remodeled Library West, and the old Women's Gym. We also have a couple of new buildings coming up in Pugh Hall and the Nanoscience Building, and a third (the Biomedical Facility) in planning stages. As the University continues to grow, PPD's responsibilities will continue to grow as well, and OB said he is confident that our employees will successfully meet these new challenges.



Camera crews from WUFT News and the Gainesville Sun film PPD Assoc. Director of Operations Eric Cochran as he pumps the first official tank of ethanol on the UF campus.

On August 30th, PPD Motor Pool pumped our first tank of ethanol fuel. Motor Pool has installed a 2000 gallon ethanol tank, and the Gainesville Sun and WUFT news were on hand to cover the official first fueling. OB said that PPD is working hard to find alternatives to petroleum for fueling our campus fleet. In addition to ethanol, Motor Pool will soon be dispensing a 20% blend of bio-diesel fuel mixed with regular diesel. While this does not save much money, OB said it represents a major step forward in reducing our dependency on fossil fuels. PPD has also tested an electric truck over the last few months, but the vehicle, which had no A/C and limited power, was not a good fit for use at UF. OB encouraged PPD employees to let him know if they have any knowledge of possible heavy duty, alternative-powered vehicles which could be used on campus.

The official UF logo has changed – the new logo represents an effort by the University to create a consistent "brand name". Mr. O'Brien said that PPD will be replacing all signs on campus with signs that feature the new logo over the next several months.

The Ficke Gardens project is underway – this project will beautify the area just south of the Baughman Center on Museum Road. OB said that the project will feature thirty palm trees as a centerpiece, and is scheduled to be completed by Christmas 2006.

The patio at Rinker Hall is the site of a new roof design – the roof incorporates plants and bushes on top for cover and insulation. OB said that this "green roof" design promotes sustainability and reduced energy consumption, and is similar to the roof at Carabba's restaurant in SW Gainesville.

Question and Answer:

Q: Will we be getting merit raises this year?

A: Yes, but remember that merit raises are based on performance, so only employees who have demonstrated outstanding service will receive one. All employees will receive the 3% across-the-board raise in October, however.

Q: I heard that there will be a new building coming soon that will affect our parking lot, is this true?

A: The UF master plan does show this area as a potential location for dormitories, but that is a very long-term possibility. However, there has been discussion about building a Baby Gators daycare facility just west of Bldg. 700. But if new construction ever takes over our existing grounds, we will have to create new space to house PPD – either by developing the land currently used in the bullpen area or by moving PPD to a different location on the fringes of campus.

UFCC Cont. From Pg. 1

hopes to increase that amount during this year's campaign.

"Each department will be having a meeting with their UFCC representative," said PPD Chair Committee member Harold Barrand. "These meetings will explain how and where to fill out and submit your pledge card, outline some of the charities and worthy causes that the UFCC is designed to support, and answer any questions employees may have about their participation in the campaign."

As always, employees will have the option to send their donation in as part of the overall campaign, or to earmark it for specific charities within the UFCC. With 79 organizations participating, there are many diverse and worthwhile causes represented. For example, a \$1 weekly donation can provide:

- 156 new books for a children's reading program through Child Care Resources
- 52 prescriptions to be filled by Gainesville Community Ministries for low or limited-income persons
- two mental health therapy sessions for an abused child at the Child Advocacy Center
- five abandoned kittens or puppies with homes and the cost of spaying/neutering through Gainesville Pet Rescue
- or 100 hours of supervised computer learning to young people without access to a computer at home, through the Boys and Girls Club

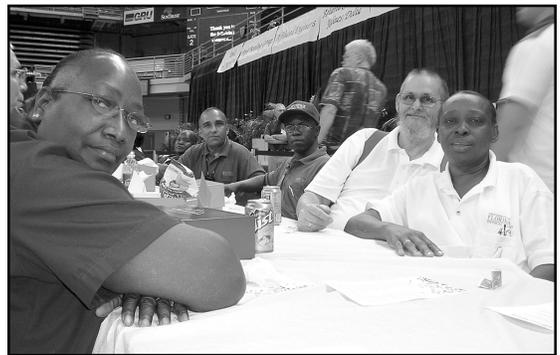
Your gift counts! Look for your pledge card and attend your department's UFCC meeting, or visit www.ufcc.ufl.edu for more information on how you can be part of Physical Plant's tradition of charitable giving.

Benefits Open Enrollment Period 9/19-10/25

UF employees who wish to make changes to their pre-tax benefits may do so during open enrollment, 9/19-10/18. Changes made will become effective on January 1, 2007. Representatives from a number of vendors will be on hand to answer benefits questions from 9 AM - 4 PM, 9/25-26 in the Reitz Union Grand Ballroom. For more information, contact Lori O'Steen in the PPD HR office at 392-2333, or go to www.hr.ufl.edu/benefits/openenrollment.htm.

Finance & Administration Employee Appreciation Day

August 16, 2006



New Employees

Harley Conner, Building Services
Tonya Decoursey, Building Services
Drew Dewitt, Building Services
James Glover, Grounds
Albert Gulley, Building Services
Cheryl Knight, Resource Mgmt.
Vivian Raymond, HSC
Clifford Standridge, HSC
Willie Vinson, Building Services

Promotions

Keith Gaylord, Grounds
Charles LaPoe, Building Services

July Employees of the Month:

Douglas Boyd
Systems



Natasha Frazier
Building Services



Jesse Matthews
Health Center



Darron Poole
Grounds



Ina Webb
Building Services



Lori Jean Wooten
Building Services

Not Pictured: Stephanie Edwards,
Building Services

HSC Continued From Pg. 1

and stayed there for five years, during which time I completed my bachelor's degree."

Bruce has been married to his wife Ardi, a music teacher, for thirty-five years, and they have four grown children ("Two are already married and the other two are getting married off next year," he says). The Bonhams are enjoying their new home in Gainesville, but Bruce does have one complaint: "We've always lived in smaller cities, and the commute to work was pretty quick. Now, I live five miles from the Health Center and it takes me 25 minutes to make it here each morning!"

After two months and change on the job at PPD, Bruce says things are working out well. "I am really enjoying things so far," he said. "We have an excellent and very intelligent staff. I have been pleasantly surprised with the great attitudes and cooperation I have seen to this point. Eric (Cochran) really left me with a very good team in place. The Health Science Center is a unique facility with its location and clientele, and there is something new for me to learn every day. It's a fast-paced, exciting atmosphere, and it's mentally challenging – that is something that I enjoy, and a big reason that I look forward to working here at the University of Florida."