I have a coffee cup on my desk that states, “I survived another meeting that should have been an e-mail”. When I came to Creighton University, now more than three years ago, I set out to minimize what I could see, was told, or soon learned, were meetings scheduled in such an assembly line fashion that little productive work could be accomplished. There was one meeting in particular, each Monday of every week I noticed from my first introduction, that had a wealth of information exchanged, where ideas were shared, and goals were discussed.

Those meeting have continued without structural changes because everyone one of those in attendance find value in them. The format is inclusionary and open. Sometimes we get off the subject at hand, usually with me telling a story, which may or may not be applicable to the discussion at hand.

Everyone gets a chance to offer key points of their particular area of responsibility and we support each other with “wisdom” from the collective years of experience that we each bring to the table. The meetings start first thing each Monday and are scheduled for an hour. For me personally it has become a habit where I arrive a few minutes early to share the happenings of the past weekend before we transition into the task at hand.

Facilities Management and Project Planning (FM&PP) is a 24/7/365 operation and the first agenda item is typically the after-hours and weekend log sheets. The dedicated and resourceful members of our FMPP team bring real value to the Creighton Campus. I don’t need any meeting to recognize that of course but when reviewing those log sheets together we get a real sense of the expertise that is required to respond to calls that don’t always have all the necessary facts and the steps necessary once a solution has been thought through.

As I told the group assembled this morning (July 25, 2016), “I am so proud to be a member of such a fun loving and talented group of individuals”. The service work we provide is often “behind the walls” but so valuable and necessary. As always, thank you for allowing me to lead the fine group of FM&PP.

Tim P. Norton, Assistant Vice President
Facilities Management & Planning
Creighton University
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2500 California Plaza
Omaha, Nebraska 68178
402-280-2355 (Desk)
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July 25, 2016

Dear Faculty and Staff,

I am happy to inform you that I have named the members of the new Presidential Advisory Committee on Sustainability. The committee, under co-chairs Drs. Jay Leighter and Mary Ann Vinton, represents a broad cross section of campus constituents.

I am grateful to all of those who expressed interest in serving on the committee and to those who have accepted appointments. I look forward to the committee’s work in assessing our related strengths and opportunities in academic programming, enhancements of our campus environment, our institutional identity, and our geographical position in the Midwest as we address critical issues of sustainability. You can read more about the mission and vision for the committee and the list of members online here.

As I prepare to begin in September a new season of meetings of the President’s Council, I have invited two new members to join the group. Mr. Ed Morse and Ms. Felicia Nuno will serve on the council for the 2016-17 academic year as representatives of the faculty and staff. Ed is a professor in the School of Law as well as the newly elected faculty president. He replaces Dr. Steve Sieberson, also a professor in the law school, who has served on the council admirably for the past few semesters. Felicia is an administrative assistant in the School of Dentistry as well as the newly elected chair of the Staff Advisory Council. I thank Ed and Felicia for joining us, and Steve for his perspective and counsel.

An important part of my work this coming academic year is to establish and formalize institutional planning. The richness of both the listening sessions with you last fall and the spring-semester Area Examen process – as well as the already scheduled re-accreditation visit this April – inspires me to begin a process that will engage and impel us well into our future.

I am pleased to announce that Dr. Mary Chase will take on the new title of vice provost for Enrollment Management and University Planning, and that Dr. Chase and Mr. Paul McGreal, dean, School of Law, have accepted my invitation to assist Dr. Tom Murray, interim provost, and me as co-chairs in a new process of institutional planning that is collaborative and communicative. Presidential initiatives related to diversity, globalization, service-learning, and sustainability are either gaining momentum or operationalizing, and I look forward to working with the campus community and to endorsing themes and priorities that represent the essence and opportunities of Creighton University. More to come soon.

Last week, I had an opportunity to meet and pray with Dr. Robert Heaney at his home here in Omaha. An alumnus, a distinguished and longtime professor of medicine, and the first holder of the John A. Creighton University Professorship, Dr. Heaney was diagnosed last year with an incurable, malignant brain tumor. He is approaching his passing peacefully, and with a strong sense of faith. I ask that we please pray for Dr. Heaney and his family that they may find comfort and support during this difficult time.
It is hard to believe that our freshman undergraduate students will be arriving on campus in about four weeks. I am excited to welcome all of our new students – traditional and nontraditional, professional and undergraduate, online and on-campus, from points across the United States and around the world. Our new undergraduate class moves in on Saturday, Aug. 20. I encourage all Creighton faculty and staff to join our newest students for the Creighton Pathway at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 23. Following a short welcoming ceremony at St. John’s Church, the students will walk along the mall to the Wayne and Eileen Ryan Athletic Center and D.J. Sokol Arena for the Academic Convocation. Faculty and staff are invited to line the route and show their support.

As we look forward to this new journey, I also reflect back on my first year as president. I would like to thank the entire Creighton community for making me feel so welcome this year. Creighton is indeed special – a place of community, inquiry, friendship, and engagement in the world. I invite you to watch a video, produced by our University Communications and Marketing Office, that highlights the past year.

Please enjoy these remaining days of our summertime, and I look forward to seeing everyone back on campus soon.

Gratefully,

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ

The SimplyWell Health Screenings are less than 8 weeks away! Now is the time to gear up and take action to make sure you are implementing the health habits you need to for a successful health screening! Take some time to watch the SimplyWell Bootcamp webinar to get yourself ready!

This “boot camp” is designed to inform and inspire you to take action for better health now! Participants will receive:

✓ Information and practical ideas on how to easily incorporate practical habits into a busy lifestyle with a goal to improve SimplyWell Health Scores
✓ Reminders of the Health Score, what impacts it and steps to improve it
✓ Inspire the necessary confidence and motivation to apply these strategies into personal life and that of your families

To view the webinar, go to this link: http://cc.readytalk.com/play?id=dntrxb

Questions? wellness@creighton.edu

Health Screening for Night Crew
Thursday, September 22, 2016 – 4 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.
Sustainability

This summer, like last summer, Creighton is working together to save energy on extremely hot days (generally 92° and above). Emails go out to the whole campus and these signs are posted on the digital displays across campus. Last year, this program saved 30% over 2014 on the Main Campus electrical meter!

The President recently announced the Presidential Advisory Committee on Sustainability. More information can be found here:

https://www.creighton.edu/office-president/presidential-committees/sustainability

Spirit of St. Francis Award Nominations will be due in September!
This award identifies and recognizes Creighton University students, faculty, staff, and administrators from across the university who are engaged in making an impact on, and developing a culture of, campus sustainability efforts. Their efforts can include generating awareness, implementing strategic projects, or catalyzing new initiatives.

Announcements coming soon!
Energy Management

The Energy Management Team has been very busy over the last few months. They have been working on getting many buildings brought over to the new building management system. The Criss Science Complex, Rigge and Hixson Lied are the latest to be added to the Smart Structure System. This new system has brought new ideas to our campus. We are able to push out graphics that we can display on the big screens around campus. We are able to login and look at the system from our phones or other devices. This is great for troubleshooting issues with the mechanical systems.

While everyone is on summer break they are going through the resident halls and checking the operation of the units and the buildings. They are looking for areas that also would waste energy and making corrections or suggestions for future projects.

The Energy Management Team has also been working on a metering project. They have installed meters in a large number of buildings so we can track the chilled water, steam, steam condensate and electrical usage. This has been a great help in identifying buildings that are wasting energy so that they can get on them and correct the deficiencies in the buildings. So far they have identified several valves that have failed saving the campus thousands of dollars in chilled water. They have also identified buildings that were using steam at a higher rate than expected and had steam traps repaired. The information that these meters are gathering will be great to benchmark our buildings’ energy usage over time. We will be able to use this data to pinpoint problems and generate energy savings projects to address the issues.

The Energy Management Team has been commissioning the whole campus building by building, going through the buildings controls system in detail. This involves verifying all the devices are working correctly. All systems must perform correctly from a mechanical, electrical and software standpoint. If not they are added to a deficiencies list. They have a list of thousands of deficiencies that they have found. They have also corrected many of them as they are moving through the buildings. This is a great start to making sure our campus is running as efficiently as possible with the equipment and software that we have at this time.

With the warm summer days there are a higher number of calls than usual for the energy management team. These calls range from too warm to too cold. Also the occasional question of why are we wasting energy? They react to all the calls to stay on top of the situations. They try to rectify the problems finding the long term fix and resolving complaints as much as possible. Many times they have to refer to our campus Energy Conservation Policy explaining to the occupants that we run our units at a certain temperature based on the policy. They will take the time to educate the occupants on how the systems work, so they can understand the delicate balance of comfort to energy savings. They monitor the weather forecast and when they get a day that is predicted to be over 95°F they will initiate the campus electrical curtailment program.

Two interns are helping the campus achieve optimum performance on our campus. Chris Anderson and Blake Walling have joined us for the summer. They are replacing the air flow piping and fittings on many of the air terminal boxes within the buildings. This is reducing the airflow through the boxes and allowing the building management systems to read correctly. This does two things: it reduces the amount of energy we are using and also creates a more comfortable space condition. They have also taken on a project entering information in the Energy Star Portfolio so we can track our buildings better. They are creating an energy savings project that will take control of kitchen exhaust hoods. This project could benefit the campus by reducing the amount of conditioned air that is exhausted saving the campus thousands of dollars.

The Energy Management Team Includes Creighton Employee Pat McAtee, external Contractors like Optimized Systems’ including; Rick Kmiecik, Chris Stephens, Rick Harris, Matt Mattheis, Control Services’ Jake Kopocis, Mark Didde, Corey Albers, Dave Moheng, Josh Swain, also Project Advocates’ Charlie Gill, Chris Bilau and countless number of other support staff. The combined effort of this team has been able to reduce the campus energy usage to achieve a campus wide, temperature demand compensated, savings of over one million dollars for the last year. Congratulations to this team and all the effort they have put into achieving this goal.
Tyler Mueller began his duties in the Custodial Shop at Creighton University on May 19, 2016. Tyler previously worked at Dudley’s Pizza and Bright Minds Learning Center. He studied at Midland University for 2 years and enjoys the ukulele and choir. Tyler is single and is the son of Jim Mueller, who works in the Creighton Carpenter Shop.

Stacy McMahon is an Administrative Assistant in the Front Office at Facilities Management. Stacy started her job on June 6, 2016. She came to Creighton from All American Fund Raising where she worked as a fund raising consultant for over 9 years. Stacy enjoys all outdoor activities, riding dirt bikes, camping, fishing and attending motocross events. Stacy is expecting her first child, a son, in September.

Amber Cummins began work as an Administrative Assistant in the Front Office at Facilities Management on June 9, 2016. Amber attended the University of Missouri earning a degree in Business Management and hopes to continue her education, working for a non-profit minor and master degree. Before coming to Creighton Amber worked for four years in office administration. She is single, but in a relationship. Amber’s interests are traveling, meeting new people, and experiencing new opportunities.

Ricardo Lara is a new Groundskeeper.

Matt Mitera is our newest Groundskeeper. Matt started his duties at Creighton on July 18, 2016, after working for Amerilawn as a Landscape Foreman for 3 ½ years. Matt earned an Associate Degree in Turf and Landscape Management from Iowa Western Community College. Matt is married and enjoys hunting, fishing and the outdoors.
Other Dates to Remember…

Coming in January 2017…

SimplyWell Health Screenings
September 20, 2016
Through
October 7, 2016
Plan now to participate!

FREE

Facilities Management
FUN DAY

Tuesday, September 20, 2016
12:00 noon – 3:30 p.m.

Cooper Farm Picnic Grounds
8602 Mormon Bridge Road

- Return T-shirt Order form to Justin Burgett by Friday, August 5th.
- You must be present to receive your T-shirt and be eligible for door prizes.