Message from the President

“As Facility Managers working in an academic setting we are faced with unique challenges almost every day. Each of us feel like we work on our own deserted island. In order to be more successful, facility managers in academics need to network and share their experiences…”

[Continue reading…]

Learning Spaces:
How facilities are changing education.
by Carlos Rodríguez, FM.

Facility Fusion 2017
Pictures, highlights and more from Facility Fusion 2017 which took place in Las Vegas, Nevada from the 4th to the 6th of April in Caesar’s Palace.

World Workplace 2017
The most all-encompassing learning and networking event on facilities and how to manage them. Immerse yourself in all things FM — from groundbreaking discoveries impacting the industry, to achievable strategies for your daily to-do list.

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As Facility Managers working in an academic setting we are faced with unique challenges almost every day. Each of us feel like we work on our own deserted island. In order to be more successful, facility managers in academics need to network and share their experiences. The very nature of our work requires us to be creative problem solvers, keeping our eyes and ears open to new and creative ways to get our work done.

Learning and networking opportunities like attending the recent Facility Fusion held in Las Vegas helps to strengthen and create connections to likeminded professionals. I would like to remind everybody that IFMA’s World Workplace 2017 will be held this October in Houston. The educational sessions alone are well worth the price of attending the conference but the connections you build are invaluable. I truly hope to see you at World Workplace 2017.

Many of our members are taking on interns who are curious about what Facilities Management is all about. Facilities Management interns get an opportunity to gain valuable educational connections through their workplace experiences and hosts get an opportunity to pass on an understanding of just how important Facilities Management is to the organization. So, do you have an intern that just “Rocks It” for you? Have you found that intern who has come into your organization and has reenergized you and your organization? Tell us about your find! Shine a light on just how powerful your intern and your internship program is to accomplishing your mission. Let us know all about your intern. Tell us about how you found your intern or how your intern found you or perhaps the story is about how you were put together by an intervening third party who saw the potential in someone who they thought could enrich your work life through mentorship. With the end of the school year just around the corner I hope we hear from each and every one of you, soon.

James Gonsalves, CFM
President, Academic Facilities Council

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International Facility Management Association
Learning Spaces
How facilities are changing education

As Academic Facility Managers, we have to find ways to improve and enhance the learning experience. In order to do this, FM's collaborate with educators and the academic leadership and share ideas on how to do this.

In a constantly changing world, we no longer have to imagine how things look like, we can make them, see them in three dimensions, feel them, use all of our senses to enhance practicality and learning. Learning spaces are evolving, and no longer comprised of students sitting in desks, absorbing the educator’s dissertations and information; Rather, students are taking a more hands-on approach, experimenting and creating.

Aligned with each facility's core values, the FM must implement best practices, and balance functionality, performance, safety and sustainability of each space. This leads to the concept of a Makerspace.

A Makerspace is a physical location where people gather to share resources and knowledge, work on projects, network, and build. Different from a conventional classroom, Makerspaces encourage self-directed projects, creative teams. They are often open for informal, unscheduled use. Even though they initially focused on different areas in engineering and computer sciences, they are currently being used by a variety of disciplines.

The process to create a Makerspace can be divided in 4 steps: scope, funding, scope, resources, and implementation.

Scope: The first step is to identify the need, which areas need improvement, what the educator requires to effectively implement their curriculum, and how many students would be impacted by those areas.

Funding: a Facility Manager must work with all interested parties and allocate funding for the project. One of the downsides of Makerspaces is high cost because of investment in the spaces and tools used.

Resources are the materials and tools available in these spaces, These often come at a high price, from 3D printers, to industrial mechanical tools, etc. so FM’s should look into phasing the project out in stages.

Facility Fusion 2017, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Facility Fusion, which took place in Caesar’s Palace in Las Vegas, Nevada from April 4th to the 6th was an excellent opportunity to meet other leaders.

It was also a positive idea sharing session, which provided good momentum and FM’s and other professionals participated in idea sharing sessions and solutions to situations in their working environments.
World Workplace 2017
Oct. 18-20, Houston, Texas.

World Workplace 2017 will take place at the George R. Brown Convention Center in Houston, Texas from October 18th to the 20th.

The most all-encompassing learning and networking event on facilities and how to manage them. Immerse yourself in all things FM — from groundbreaking discoveries impacting the industry, to achievable strategies for your daily to-do list. Discover a new way to do it, a different place to source it, a cool tool to fix it or an action plan to solve it. Whatever your “it” is, pursue, perfect or attain it at World Workplace.

SAVE THE DATE!

You are invited to AFC’s Welcome Meeting on Wednesday, October 18, from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM in the Convention Center. The room number will be announced at a later date. We are developing the agenda and welcome your input. A continental breakfast will be provided.

About Campus Tour

The Academic Facilities Council, along with Conference co-chairs Scott Patterson and Bill Turner are working on a program for World Workplace 2017 that will likely include a Facility Tour to the University of St. Thomas in Houston.
Membership Map

You can access the interactive map in the link below:
CLICK HERE FOR INTERACTIVE MEMBERSHIP MAP

Membership as of 4/19/17: 360
AFC FMs, We strongly encourage your favorite vendors to take advantage of becoming an AFC sponsor. They will have the benefit of being showcased as a supporter of the Council and our profession at AFC events, on the AFC website and newsletter. Our nearly 400 members will see their Company’s offering on a frequent basis. Thanks in advance for passing this on. If you have questions regarding the benefits etc. please contact a board member (see page 10 for contact info.)

**PLATINUM LEVEL: $2,500.00**
Recognized as sponsor of the premier event of the conference. 
1 sponsorship available.

- 3 signs at event - (company provides) up to 40 sq ft
- Representative is introduced at event and brings greetings from company (2-3 mins)
- Company logo and link on AFC website noted as sponsor of event logo will remain for 45 days after event
- 4 tickets to event they are sponsoring
- Business cards and brochures available on table by their sign
- Tent cards for tables during their sponsored events
- Delegate gifts
- Mailing list of delegates
- Registration for one individual

**GOLD LEVEL: $1,500.00**
Recognized as sponsors of 1 of the 2 lunches at the event. 
2 sponsorships available.

- Representative introduced at event.
- Company logo & link on AFC website noted as sponsor of event logo will remain for 45 days after event.
- 2 tickets to event sponsoring.
- 1 sign at event - (company provides) up to an area of 12 sq ft
- Business cards and brochures available on table by their sign.
- 1 ticket to main social event
- Tent cards for tables during their sponsored events
- Delegate gifts
- Mailing list of delegates

**SILVER LEVEL: $1,000.00**
Recognized as sponsors of 1 of the 2 breakfasts at event. 
4 sponsorships available.

- Representative introduced at event.
- Company logo and link on AFC website noted as sponsor of event logo will remain for 45 days after event.
- 1 sign at event - (company provides) up to an area of 12 sq ft
- 1 ticket to event they are sponsoring
- 1 ticket to main social event
- Tent cards for tables during their sponsored events
- Delegate gifts
- Mailing list of delegates

**BRONZE LEVEL: $500.00**
The Bronze Sponsors may sponsor nutrition breaks, transportation as examples.

- Company logo and link on AFC website noted as sponsor of event logo will remain for 45 days after event.
- 1 ticket to event they are sponsoring
- Delegate gifts
Positions Currently Available

**Sustainability Chair** – The Chair of the Sustainability committee is the liaison between the IFMA Sustainability committee and the AFC. You would participate in calls with the IFMA Sustainability committee to keep the AFC board (and membership) current via the AFC monthly board meeting calls and by writing a quarterly newsletter article.

**Education Program Chair** – The Chair of the Education Program committee helps to develop relevant topics for newsletter articles, webinars and conference presentations, and coordinates qualified presenters for the 4-6 times per year webinars and 1-2 times per year conferences.

**Corporate Sponsorship Chair** - The Corporate Sponsorship Chair is responsible for maintaining relationships/matching our corporate partners and associate members with opportunities to gain visibility within the AFC through sponsorships supporting conference activities such as meals, transportation, and the like.

Contact the membership chair or current board member to volunteer!
**About the AFC**

Academic facilities offer facility managers and space planners many unique challenges. These individuals must effectively plan, design, construct, utilize and maintain a variety of buildings, grounds and equipment including classrooms, computer labs, residence halls and apartments, athletic facilities, dining halls, theaters, laboratories, libraries and health care facilities. The students, instructors and researchers who utilize these facilities have needs that may radically differ from conventional building tenants.

**About the Board of Directors**

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**AFC Committees**

**Membership**
Gary Rudkin, Gary.Rudkin@Corix.com

**Education**
Position Open.

**Content**
Jessa Gagne
jgagne@stonehill.edu

**Sustainability**
Position Open.

**Corporate Sponsorship**
Position Open.

"An ideal facility manager must have Aristotle’s logic and Solomon’s wisdom, a priest’s discretion and a gambler’s poker face, a lawyer’s shrewdness and a marketing director’s charm, a gladiator’s guts, a marathon runner’s perseverance and a sprinter’s speed, a leatherneck’s toughness and a dancer’s agility, lots of good luck and 30 hours per day."

~Unknown Source