We are pleased to announce that Joshua Detzler, Landscaping & Grounds Crew Service Mechanic, has been selected as this year’s winner of the Keller Award. Josh joined FS in November of 2008 and has primary responsibility for the maintenance and scheduling of the irrigation systems on campus. He holds himself accountable for his work and has developed an efficient and effective system of shutting off the 50 irrigation systems on campus after a heavy rain occurs. What used to take 2 days to do, Josh is able to complete in just over one day because of his advanced planning. When Josh is on-site fixing a problem, he frequently seeks out his customers to ensure that their needs and wants are addressed so that every client is completely satisfied.

Josh has also helped the University be a more sustainable environment by controlling and adjusting the application of water throughout campus. By keeping a close watch on weather and plant needs, Josh adjusts the irrigation cycles so that water is not wasted. His keen eye has helped the University continue its push towards a more sustainable campus. Congratulations Josh on being this year’s Keller Award Winner!

There are three honorable mentioned awardees who also deserve recognition for their achievements. John Carey, Senior Client Services Manager, is reliable, accountable and responsive to both his internal and external clients. John handles difficult situations with the utmost tact and professionalism. He has a “can do” attitude and is always willing to go the extra mile of the good of the University. Alice Chu, Executive Administrator strives for personal and professional excellence. She is respected by her peers for her dedication and hard work. She adapts to the ever-changing environment and always puts the University and FS needs in front of her personal preferences. She is a true team player. Craig Kelley, Supervisor of the Residential Maintenance Shop continually demonstrates excellent customer service. He excels at producing lighting quick research and installations, creatively solves problems, and is highly valued by his peers. Congratulations to each of you!
In 2008, the University of Chicago reached an agreement to purchase two buildings and an adjacent parking lot from the Chicago Theological Seminary (CTS). The acquisition of space in this prime location is now planned for adaptive reuse for the Department of Economics and Milton Friedman Institute for Research in Economics. The agreement with CTS includes the University’s construction of a new seminary building at 60th Street & Dorchester Avenue.

This new home for CTS will be a 78,000 gross square foot, four-story building that will include faculty and staff offices, classrooms, and learning and student commons. Public assembly and worship spaces include a small chapel and a meditation space, as well as worship and dining areas with soaring glass walls and access to the building’s green roof spaces on the fourth floor. The building’s contemporary design incorporates artifacts from its original 1928 seminary building such as the original stained glass, the cross from the top of the steeple, and plaques that document CTS history.

Unique sustainable design components of the new building include a 5,000 square foot green roof area, the majority of which will be open to the public. The green roof will reduce storm water run-off, minimize the building’s heat island effect, and will be a symbolic presence of the investment in sustainable technologies. The University received a $50,000 grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to increase the scale and luseness of the green roof project.

Leading The CTS project is Senior Project Manager, Desiree DiLucente, with assistance from Project Assistant, Sara Matesevac. Approximately 80% of the site has been excavated, and grade beam installation is complete. Key markers in the next month include completion of the basement columns and foundation walls of the building. This will include pouring concrete and starting construction of the first floor. Substantial completion of the building is expected by August of 2011.

We want your feedback about the FS Pipeline Newsletter! Answer the questions below and return to Rose Hart, Mott room 120B by Friday, October 1st to be entered to win a University of Chicago sweatshirt.

1. Do you read the FS Newsletter?
   YES   NO

2. Do you like the new format of the newsletter?
   YES   NO

3. Do you find the newsletter useful and informative?
   YES   NO

4. What articles or information would you like to see in the newsletter?

Name __________________________
Unit __________________________

Here are people you meet who take great pride in their jobs. You can hear the enthusiasm when they talk about their roles and responsibilities. Adam Lucido is one of those people. Adam joined Facilities Services in 2004 as a laborer and is now the Central Utility Plant Foreman.

When asked what he likes most about his job, Adam replied, “I really like the people I work with. I have a good crew.” He went on to explain, “There is so much combined experience at the Steam Plant. It’s the type of experience you cannot learn from a book. There are several team members at the plant who have 30 or 40 plus years of experience and have a lot to offer. They have enough experience that, despite the humming of the machinery, these men can pinpoint a problem and its location instantly.”

Adam shared a story about the first welding job he had on campus: “There was a condensate leak at the I-House. Mike [DeSoto] and Dan [Carey] asked me if it was something I could handle. I told them it would be no problem, and went to tackle my first welding job. It was in one of the tightest spots I have ever encountered. I had to use a mirror to see the spot where the leak was! Mike and Dan stopped by to check on me and to offer their support.” Adam has felt empowered to take on important challenges early in his career with the University. He is quite proud of his contributions to the Central Utility Plant operations on campus. We are quite lucky to have him on our team.
Each year during the FS All Staff Meeting, the department is honored to recognize employees and their contributions to the University. All benefits-eligible staff employees are eligible to receive awards for their longevity and performance at the University of Chicago. University award emblems are presented to staff employees recognizing years of service in accordance with University Policy U1002 – Staff Employee Recognition.

In calculating year of service, employees who have worked for the University previously then returned, worked as a temporary employee or went from one local union to another are sometimes confused about how their “benefits eligibility date” is calculated. Unless prior service has been approved to be bridged, an employee’s years of “benefits-eligible” service must be continuous to receive a service award. [See policy U205 Re-employment of University Employees.] If an employee has a break in service for any period of time, the years worked prior to the break are invalid for award purposes. In addition, if an employee does not have benefits through the University, such as having benefits through a local union, then years of service are based on the employee’s seniority date and not a benefits eligibility date. (Employees represented by a union may be governed by the appropriate bargaining unit agreement.)

Employees who feel that they have an incorrect benefits eligibility date should contact FS HR who can research the issue with central Human Resource Services. Should an employee lose his/her award and wish to have it replaced, he/she may contact HRS-Employee/Labor Relations (E/LR).

Service award pins are an acknowledgement of contributions made by an employee and should be worn proudly. Congratulations to all of the 2010 FS employees being recognized and honored for their service!

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**Service Award Recipients**

**40 Years**
Rose Dyrud
Leonard Mackivitch

**35 Years**
Kenneth Cahill
Ellen Huckelberry
Lawrence Smith

**30 Years**
Laverne Rathbun

**25 Years**
Carl Hoefer

**20 Years**
Stephen Clarke
William Fitzgerald
Nikica Grbavac
John Lamana
Timothy Orr
Gary Phillips
Daniel Schuch
Edward Struble
Calvin Young

**15 Years**
Paul Brink
Michael Kekeli
Armando Pizano
Michael Urbanczyk

**10 Years**
Ricardo Almanza
Brian Baltudis
Dana Bell

Jose Guzman
Josip Kristo
James Mazies
Ricardo Moreno
Robert Tiberg
Keith Woltkamp

**5 Years**
Ana Alba
Daniel Albo
Avdo Avdic
Keith Bayus
Oscar Charo
Jacqueline Childs
Emanuel Clay
Troy Gray
Brandon Jankowski
Donald Karnoski
John Kerkemeyer
Silvestre Lomeli
Kurt Long
Roberto Lupano
Boguslae Lyczewski
Tom Murphy
Eunice McPhee
Jack Ryder
More than 800 University undergraduate and graduate student, faculty, and staff apartments must be “turned over” between June 15th and September 20th. Work could be a total gut rehab or just a fresh coat of paint with a basic cleaning.

Craig Kelley is the Supervisor for the Facilities Services’ Residential Maintenance Shop. “There are roughly 16 tradesmen and six summer temporary employees that put in the real work. Generally, these folks must be jacks-of-all-trades. It’s what we do and the job demands it.”

On any given day Craig’s group could have over 600 open work orders to address in a six-day work week during the busy summer season. Craig’s capable band of tradesmen will work in more than half of the University-owned rental properties in Hyde Park each summer.

The Residential Maintenance Shop recently added two in-house plumbers to the team and continues to turn out more work than ever. In addition, the shop recently completed an upgrade to the Grounds Maintenance Shop that improved the working conditions for their co-workers. Call it a “win-win” for both groups!

Summer: The Turnover Season

Dear FS Colleagues,

It was great to see so many of you at our summer picnic (maybe next year I’ll sing?) and at our September All-Staff meeting. At these events, I’m always reminded of how far-reaching our department responsibilities are, touching the lives of just about all of the faculty, students and staff of the University of Chicago. It’s great when we can all be physically together if even for only a few hours to remind ourselves of how much our success depends on communicating with and supporting each other.

This summer was great for heat, rain, and the largest Convocation in University history. Many of us experienced life on the South side of the Midway while the Young Building was renovated. I know I’m moving back with renewed appreciation for the importance of the blocks between 60th and 61st streets to the ongoing vitality of our campus. As other Universities are acquiring remote properties for their expansion, we have the great opportunity to build on and connect to our south campus with projects like the Logan Arts Center, Chicago Theological Seminary, Harris School, Midway Crossings, and the incorporation of former REO properties into FS.

In August, I was able to experience that connection across the Midway underground! Dan Carey and crew led Joel Schriever and me on a steam tunnel tour. It was helpful for me to see (and feel) firsthand some of the challenges we face in keeping the campus infrastructure running smoothly. Many of us have been devoting a lot of time this summer to another type of infrastructure. Maximo upgrades and e-Builder will ultimately provide us with improved tools to do our jobs more effectively.

I’d like to close by congratulating this year’s winner of the Keller award. The winner was selected from a group of nominees that clearly reflect how FS can, and does, go above and beyond what is expected of them. Congratulations to Joshua Detzler!

With our combined strengths, FS will continue to focus on providing exceptional customer service and operational excellence. Together, we will provide the University and its community with greater enhancements to its physical environment; upgrading and refurbishing existing buildings, building state of the art new and sustainable buildings, and maintaining the buildings, grounds and utility infrastructure with the highest quality service by our talented staff. We are committed to achieving all of our goals within a safe work environment. As we begin to “measure” our performance through our strategic initiatives, we’ll be able to improve on our operational and service delivery month by month, and year to year. We are truly building and maintaining excellence.

Thank you for all your hard work and hope you enjoyed this “record breaking” summer.