Our EHS Manager discusses his role in the Gulf Coast Response effort

Ed’s safety work in LA matches his MIT position

Ed Akerley, Facilities’ EHS Manager, was recently activated by the Coast Guard to support Gulf Coast oil spill cleanup efforts. Ed, a reservist, is a Marine Science Technician and is currently serving in the Deepwater Horizon Response as the safety officer for Lafourche Parish, Louisiana. Below are excerpts from a Q&A on the Deepwater Horizon Response website.

Q: What does your position as the safety officer entail?
A. My overall responsibility is the health and safety of all the workers here. I work in conjunction with safety contractors who are hired by BP and our primary focus is the health and safety of all the workers, site safety plans and things of that nature.

Q: What successes have you had?
A: We were the first Parish to be approved for a 24-hour operation and that required a lot of work on creating a safety plan.

Q: Does your job here relate to your civilian job?
A: My civilian job is very similar in the fact that I have to follow OSHA regulations and make them fit the Institute that I work for. It’s very similar here. Here it’s very interesting because we started from ground zero. Essentially, we’ve built a business from the ground up—“the spill response business,” for lack of a better term.

Q: If you could speak directly to the public what would you want them to know?
A: I think the most important thing for the public to know is that everyone down here is giving 120 percent to the work that they’re doing. People are working long days—12 hours plus—at their own choice. Everyone here has their heart in it and they want to get this cleaned up.

Q: Is there anything else you want to add?
A: Just the fact that I’m honored to be a part of this, especially in the role that I’m in here—working with all the people and helping to make sure that everyone goes home safely.

Q&A by Grace Baldwin
Deepwater Horizon Response
http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doc/2931/733115/
The Foundation

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We use recycled paper in the production of the Foundation.

Messages from the Directors

New fiscal year brings more efficient Operations

During the past few years, everyone at the Institute was encouraged to look at how they conduct their business and see how they could do it better. Like the other departments on campus, we tightened our belts and think the Operations areas within Facilities did an outstanding job of working with the allocated budget and refining our business model. With our new fiscal year in effect on July 1, it is now time for us to move forward.

There are several refinements in our areas, a few of which I’ll mention here. One example is that our Repair and Maintenance area was reconfigured; six zones were reviewed and after careful study, the groups were rearranged. This new arrangement led to three campus teams and reassignment of members to our central shops. The transition occurred without any disruption of service to our customers.

Our Customer Service Center continues to support Operations and will do so in a new location soon. The group is moving from E19 to the former team room of the C Zone in the basement of Building 7. The move will take place later this summer.

Another related change is in our key service. With the inclusion of SEMO in Operations and the retirement of the “Key Lady” Sharon Flanagan, we were presented with an opportunity to assess the existing business model. The result is that there will be changes that will enhance the current method. The key office will now fall under the purview of SEMO and the process for key distribution will include the Customer Service Center. Announcements about these changes will be made at the beginning of the academic year.

I want to thank everyone for their continued support of our department. We have a great group of people in Facilities. By working together as a team, we can continue to provide services worthy of the MIT community.

John DiFava, Director of Facilities Operations and Security

Jobs well done

As I write this we are in the process of preparing the FY 2010 Report to the President. So it may be a coincidence but I’m in a reflective mode (and mood) over our accomplishments this year. They are impressive.

- Completion, turnover and occupancy on schedule of E14 which completed the Media Lab complex.
- Completion, turnover and occupancy on schedule of E62 for the Sloan School of Management including a 430 car below-grade parking garage.
- Maintained progress on Building 76, the Koch Institute. The project continues on schedule with an expected turnover and occupancy by 12/31/10.
- Chilled water expansion in the CUP with chillers operational and on-line
- Completion of the building envelope work on W1
- Continued progress on MIT2030
- Partnership with NSTAR on an energy investment program
- Numerous renovations in CRSP & Capital Renewal

Thanks to the team for all our accomplishments this past year.

The mission for the Campus Planning & Design, Systems’ Engineering, Facilities’ Information Systems, Project Management and Construction team continues to focus on improving the delivery of quality services to MIT around the planning and implementation of capital construction, renovation, energy investment and improvement projects.

Dick Amster, Director of Facilities
Campus Planning, Engineering, and Construction

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A major window restoration study begins with Building 2

The Institute will celebrate its 150th anniversary next year, but there will be more to celebrate in 2016. That’s when some of the Cambridge campus buildings will turn 100. The buildings we think of as “the Main Group” were designed by William Welles Bosworth (MIT Class of 1889) and constructed from 1913 to 1916. A celebration for this core of academic buildings will surely occur in 2016.

This year a corner of Building 2 was protected by scaffolding and canvas so that the original windows and exterior masonry could be studied. Windows in three bays were removed and are being reviewed and examined to determine restoration/replacement options. In order to evaluate the windows, the contractors had to meticulously cut out plaster around the windows, chip out mortar at masonry plates, sill and header angles, and carefully remove the tops of the sill bolts without damaging the sill angle and frame. Not an easy project, but a necessary one in order to renew and preserve MIT’s heritage.

The century-old Bosworth Buildings are the most visible structures on campus, occupying a central location at the core of academic life at MIT. Including the iconic Dome, they form the Infinite Corridor, and house key academic and administrative disciplines. Now, these stately buildings are in need of renewal. Restoration and environmental upgrades will ensure that these vital buildings and MIT’s heritage are preserved into the future.

Plants with multi-season interest add beauty to west campus corridor

A garden using a combination of ornamental grasses, perennials, and columnar trees is blooming outside of the Zesiger Center. The goal of the garden was to add four season visual interest, be low maintenance by using fewer resources such as water, fertilizer, and labor, and extend the plant palette of the MIT campus. It is also designed to be an extension of the Infinite Corridor. With the plantings are reused stones not needed in another spot now used to protect this area.

This west garden, like the landscaping along the Stata Center, is a project by Grounds Services. The plan was created by Robbie Kuykendall, planted by our MIT gardeners, and managed by supervisor Dan Caterino.
Sloan building is the most sustainable on campus

The new Sloan School of Management Building has 215,000 sq. ft. plus a 425 car parking facility beneath. The project added 30,000 sq. ft. of landscaping and green space. In addition, daylight and occupancy control of lighting is provided and fenestration delivers natural light into most spaces. Shades can be closed to control light and glare and are automatically operated to limit solar heat gain as part of the HVAC control.

The new home of the Sloan School of Management is complete and will be formally dedicated next year. As a result of an integrative design process, it is the most sustainable academic building on campus. In the traditional linear design process, early decisions made by the architect and owner limit options later on for all the other disciplines. This often means that sustainable features are add-on extras that do not survive value engineering. In the integrative design process, all stakeholders and design disciplines are involved in the early schematic design stage. The Sloan project wisely scheduled the necessary time to make the integrative design process possible.

The building achieves the goal of consolidating all Sloan faculty together as well as graduate teaching, and executive education. Walking and service connections to the adjacent original Sloan building and the historic Arthur D. Little Building provide ready access and collaboration with colleagues.

In the North Garden near the Main Street entrance is Cai Guo-Qiang’s Ring Stone. The piece was purchased with MIT Percent-for Art Funds and generous gifts from the family of Robert S. Sanders, MIT Class of 1964, and the Annie Wong Art Foundation. The sculpture celebrates the Sloan School’s 10-year history of educational ties with China and was hand-carved from a 39 ½ foot-long single piece of white granite.
MIT buildings and programs receive awards

At the GoGreen Awards Ceremony are Cambridge Deputy City Manager, Richard Rossi, (l) with Larry Brutti, Operations Manager, who accepted an award for his Parking and Transportation Office’s initiatives, and Pam Delphenich, Director of Campus Planning + Design. Pam accepted the stormwater management award.

By Ruth T. Davis

MIT recently received several awards from the City of Cambridge for preservation, transportation, and environmental projects. In addition, the Building 10 Dome project received a construction renovation award. Congratulations to the contractors, MIT project team members, and others who worked on these award-winning projects!

**Preservation Award**

The Cambridge Historical Commission honored preservation projects across the City at the Fourteenth Annual Preservation Recognition Program, held on May 20 at the newly renovated Main Branch of the Cambridge Public Library. MIT was among the nine honorees for its exterior restoration of W1, the old Ashdown House at 305 Memorial Drive, formerly the Riverbank Court Hotel. The program promotes high quality preservation work in the City and honors property owners who conserve and protect the City’s architecture. Department of Facilities Program Manager Sonia Richards and Senior Planner Thayer Donham expressed his appreciation to MIT for giving such robust attention to the exterior features of this historical structure.

**GoGreen Awards**

On May 25, the City of Cambridge honored MIT with two GoGreen Awards. The awards were given for two different projects; one for our enhancements to the transportation and commuting programs and the second for the Stata Center’s innovative stormwater management and re-use system. At the ceremony, City officials praised MIT’s overall alternative transportation program, and particularly noted the Institute’s bicycle commuter benefits and amenities, including new maintenance stations, showers, and storage facilities. MIT Transportation and Parking Operations Manager Larry Brutti accepted the GoGreen Award on behalf of the Institute in the transportation category.

In the stormwater management category, City officials recognized the Stata Center system’s overall objective of improving water quality conditions in the Charles River, and specifically cited the system’s ability to collect 50,000 gallons of rainwater for site irrigation and supplemental toilet-flushing activities. Department of Facilities Director of Campus Planning and Design Pamela Delphenich accepted the stormwater management award.

**Building 10 Dome**

Using new waterproofing techniques and turn-of-the-century craftsmanship used in the original construction of the 1913 Grand Dome, the contractor for the Building 10 Dome restoration, Walsh Brothers, dismantled the existing limestone, repaired the concrete system below, applied a Kemper waterproofing system, and carefully reused any non-damaged original limestone. The project involved quarrying 300 new limestone blocks from the project’s original Indiana source and restoring the poured-concrete curvature and steps of the dome while academic functions continued in the library below. Because the team had to limit interruptions on the busy campus, it developed a full-weather protection system to minimize moisture, dust and noise, particularly during graduation ceremonies, which took place during the work. The project team received the Associated General Contractors’ Aon Build America Award in Construction Management Renovation.
Welcome to a new eco-friendly lobby in Building 7

The Custodial Services team who did the work in house are: (front row l to r) William Sims, Miguel Santos, Pearl Bennett, Ricardo Clarke, Antonio Rabbi, Michael MacDonald, Kevin DeVincent. (back row l to r) Mike Roberts, Willie Booth, Oswald Sweeney, Gordon Nickerson, Jr., Basilio Santana; Missing from photo: Angel Hernandez, Joseph Lagorio.

By Ruth T. Davis

Careful planning and good, old-fashioned “elbow grease” have resulted in a sparkling Lobby 7. After years of accumulation, the old, standard metal interlock finish was removed by night custodians led by Senior Supervisor, Ricardo Clarke. They achieved this by using several steps including a floor stripper, scraping away the old finish, and an electric floor scrubber. Once the old finish was removed, an EnviroStar Floor finish containing no metals or VOCs was applied. This floor finish will be maintained by EcH2O scrubbers, which utilize Ionic technology. These scrubbers clean the flooring with ionized water and no chemicals.

The entrance mats were worn in high traffic areas and needed replacement. The new mat is an EcoBerber whose fibers are made from 100% recycled PET (plastic bottles) and the backing is made from recycled rubber (mostly old tires). Rather than discarding the used mat altogether, the custodians cut out and recycled sections of the larger mat that still had effective-wear life left. These pieces are now used in various Institute locations.
MIT and NSTAR launch a new energy program

“MIT Efficiency Forward,” a new program with a goal of cutting electricity use by 15 percent over three years is a first-of-its kind partnership for the Institute and NSTAR. In the three-year period, the target energy savings is 34 million kilowatt-hours; that’s equivalent to the amount of electricity used by more than 4,500 Massachusetts homes in a given year. Energy efficiency is one of several key strategies being implemented at MIT to demonstrate leading approaches for reducing greenhouse-gas emissions. The Institute already utilizes combined heat and power generation, sustainable design and construction, and significant commuter-benefit programs. NSTAR will work with MIT and Facilities to conduct heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC), electrical, and lab systems improvements, and lighting fixture and control upgrades.

Earth Day 2010

Being Green was easy for Facilities on Earth Day with so much news to share. Custodial Services showed new cleaning products that are GreenSeal approved. They also had their auto scrubber on display that cleans floors without using chemicals. Our Systems Engineering Group discussed their sustainability initiatives and encouraged people to be human occupancy sensors and to turn out lights when leaving a room. The recycling table encouraged all to think inside the bin and also had lots to tell about the new compostable collection program on campus. Send less to the landfill; turn that leftover food into earth-friendly compost. The Parking and Transportation gave tips for earth-friendly commuting options.

MIT wins bike challenge

By the number of bikes on campus it’s easy to tell that lots of people travel on two wheels here. So many in fact that MIT came in first place in the MassCommuter Challenge during Bay State Bike Week this year. MIT won in the Academic Campus Community over 5,000 and surpassed Harvard by nearly 1,000 pledges (MIT 6,385; Harvard 5,388).

During the week of May 17, bay state folks pledged to bike to work, school, social activities or on errands. To encourage participation on campus, our Parking and Transportation Office held an event inside the Stratton Student Center and informed people about all the great services they offer. In addition to numerous bike racks both inside and outside, there are several Fix it stations on campus for bicyclists to use to make minor repairs.
Celebrating with good friends and family at the Day Shift Holiday Party

Ready for guests to arrive are the Day Shift Holiday Party planning team: (l to r) Sogna Scott, Bill Moran’s son-in-law, Chris House, Joe Vella, sisters Sharon Clute and Robin Arena, Bill Moran, Richard Vollemans, Paul Motroni and Larry Donaghey. (Not shown: Jani Findlay).

Custodial Services chums Aquinalda Fernandes and Maria I. Brum share good tidings.

Pat Magner, Utilities, with Frank Celani and Jim Salini from Finance and Accounting.

(l to r) Maggie MacLellan, Operations Center; David Shawles, Customer Service Center; and Chris Gilbert, Operations Center.

(l to r) Sean Kelley, R&M, with his dad, Larry Kelley, Central Utilities Plant.
By Ruth T. Davis

In early March, 15 individuals and four teams were honored at the 2010 MIT Excellence Awards, an annual ceremony to reward staff members who made extraordinary efforts to fulfill MIT’s goals, values, and mission.

For the first time, a Greening MIT award, was presented and one award was given to Facilities’ Custodial Services Green Team. The team was instrumental in making our cleaning practices healthier and better for the environment. “Thanks to this team’s leadership and community outreach, MIT has been transitioning from harsh but familiar cleaning chemicals to certified nontoxic alternatives.” The team was also recognized for its efforts in helping to develop and implement new lighting policies that reduce MIT’s energy use. In addition, they have provided leadership and training to make MIT’s recycling program as effective as possible. The award was accepted by Manager Chris Gile and Assistant Manager Carlos Alves.

In the Serving the Client category, Custodian Thomas Stillwell was recognized for providing consistent and exceptional service to his clients. “Not everyone gets to know the custodians who work so hard every day to keep the Institute professionally polished, but everyone in the Human Resources Department knows Thomas. … He is a thorough professional, ensuring that the department’s reception area, offices, and conference rooms provide a worthy environment for the Institute to conduct its daily business. But more importantly, he is, as one supporter noted, ‘the sunshine that brightens your day.’ ”

Robbie Kuykendall received an Unsung Hero award. Robbie was recognized for his work as a gardener in Grounds Services and for his volunteer efforts with the community gardeners’ group. “This past year our MIT environment was greatly enhanced by new plantings along the side of the Stata Center as well as a wonderful new green initiative, the MIT Community Gardens. Neither project could have succeeded without the tireless work of one of MIT’s devoted gardeners.”

In addition to the awardees, Facilities was represented on the selection committee by Otto Mejia from R&M. The members are a diverse group and include representatives from many different schools, labs and departments across the Institute. They are not permitted to submit nominations and are not eligible to receive an award during the year they serve.
Hours of effort spent on Commencement

Judd Carlisle, a carpenter in R&M, exposes the footings for the stage.

Jose Magalhaes, a maintenance mechanic in R&M, secures posts on the stage.

Carlos Pereira paints wood that will be used for walkways a green color to blend in with grass.

(l to r) Ed Moore, Gary Cunha, and Gerard Pitari from R&M, work on the ramp next to the stage in Killian Court.

Grounds workers (l) Matt Macaulay aerates the lawn while (r) Mark Linehan removes sod.

Grounds workers and Custodians clean up Killian Court after the Commencement ceremony ended.

(l to r) Custodians Almin Miletic, Arnold Carter, and Antonio Rabbi fold and stack chairs after the ceremony.

Boleslawa Kazimierczyk, from Custodial Services, helps clean up Killian Court after Commencement.
... before and after

(l to r) Angel Hernandez and Erik Lucas carry on of the dozens of racks used around the Court.

Custodian Dolma Tsering cleans the seats on the stage during the set up for Commencement.

Rob Lyons, a gardener in Grounds, plants flowers around the stage.

Landscape worker, Karma Nyimotsang, delivers mulch to the plants surrounding the stage in Killian Court.

Months of planning and weeks of labor resulted in a beautiful Killian Court ready for the students and their families.

(l to r) Grounds workers Mike Downey and Helder Sotomaio lay boards to protect the grass.

(l to r) Landscape worker Andrew Anderson works with Custodian Frank Rogers during the clean up effort.
As in years past, all three shifts of Facilities workers were thanked by the department’s directors for their dedication throughout the year. This year the schedule was: night shift party at 6:00 am; the day shift party at Noon; followed by the evening shift party at 4:00 pm.

Each event featured a trivia game with a chance to win $20 gift cards. Participants had to choose the answers to trivia in sports, MIT, and movies.
Foundation Recognition Day 2010

Peter Hicks
operations
5 years
Mary Harrington
parking and transportation
5 years
Larry Brutti

Mark Cataldo
Paul Lyons
Jerry Muhammed
10 years
Kevin Carpenter
Stephen Robinson
15 years
Judd Carlisle
Joseph Vella, Jr.
Russell Wise

Tony Small, Evening Supervisor for R&M, is congratulated by Kevin Connolly.

20 years
Katherine Collupy
Kevin Connolly
Neil Cunningham
Dean Gibbons
Eupremio Piccinonno
Anthony Small
25 years
James Bradford
Sharon Clute
Arthur Pitarri

40 years
Jack Narcotta

UTILITIES
5 years
Robert Arcand
Thomas Green
Seth Kinderman
15 years
Brian Ferrick
Brian Peebles

Peter Hicks,
Mail Services

Photos by Melody Craven,
Ricardo Clarke, and Ruth Davis
Obituaries

Tony Marrone, Facilities and Housing

Tony’s playing in the Zone now
If there’s a golf course in heaven, then Tony Marrone is teeing off on it. Tony was a long-time MIT employee and the older brother of Joey Comoletti of Repair and Maintenance. Tony loved to have fun and enjoyed himself the most when he was on the greens.

Tony started his career at MIT in January of 1997 as a custodian in Facilities. In April of 2000 he transferred to Housing as a Dorm Housekeeper at the East Campus Residence. In June of that year he was promoted to Dormitory Patrol and served in that position for seven years. He passed away in February 2010 after a long illness.

Honoring our graduates

New graduate Kevin Farino, hugs his parents Ted and Meg Farino following Commencement exercises this June in Killian Court. Kevin received a bachelor’s degree in Mechanical Engineering from MIT. Ted is a steamfitter in Repair and Maintenance.

Can one experience change the course of an individual’s life?

The tours provide the students with an opportunity to discuss with professionals how their personal education goals, interests and skills might fit into companies like those they visit. The group who visited MIT found the tour fascinating and got to explore the robotic prostheses in the Media Lab and also were able to watch glass blowing in the basement of Building 4 as they passed through the corridors.

The STEP program was officially launched in September of 2009. Since then, it has facilitated 266 opportunities for corporate partners to engage with students. For additional information on the STEP program, visit their website: www.stepInspire.org
Retirements
Fernando Alves, Custodial Services
Custodio “Gus” Cabrita, Repair & Maintenance
Sharon Flanagan, Repair & Maintenance
Maria Frias, Custodial Services
Czeslawa Gorecki, Custodial Services
Victor Kelly, Custodial Services
Raul Melo, Custodial Services
Lynford Purcell, Custodial Services

Farewells
Carlos Alves, Custodial Services
Ron Beauleiu, Repair & Maintenance
Sharon Benedict, Campus Planning + Design
Joseph Fish, Mail Services
William Sauer, Central Utilities Plant
John Spinosa, Central Utilities Plant

Promotions
Edward Akerley, from Assistant Manager to Manager of Environment, Health and Safety
Michael Caloggero, from Custodian to Supervisor
Ricardo Clarke, from Supervisor to Senior Supervisor
George Deloge, from Custodian to Machine Operator Custodian
John Simoes, from 3rd Class Engineer to 2nd Class Engineer

Transfers
Bernard Richard, from Manager of R&M to Senior Mechanical Engineer, Systems Engineering Group
Margaret MacLellan, from Customer Service Center to Operations Center

Graduations
Melody Craven, Graphic Design Certificate, Massachusetts College of Art and Design
Joseph Gifun, PhD in Organizational Vulnerability from the Eindhoven University of Technology, Eindhoven, The Netherlands
Joseph O’Leary, Bachelor of Arts from Boston College in Criminal Social Justice
Biss Teelucksingh, Bachelors in Construction Management from Wentworth Institute of Technology

Shuttle drivers Gus Cabrita (l) and Mike Carbone (r). Gus retired in February after 34 years of wonderful service to MIT. He started out in the Custodial Services area, moving up the ranks through Grounds Services and became a Shuttle Driver for Repair and Maintenance.

Robin Arena (l) with Sharon Flanagan (r) at Sharon’s retirement party at the Muddy Charles Pub on June 24th. Sharon has passed the keys to MIT to Robin, who will take over distribution.

Congratulations to our new US citizen, Varin Ang of Project Management. Varin earned her US citizenship this year.

Newly promoted supervisors Ricardo Clarke (l) and Mike Caloggero (r) are keeping an eye on things during the night shift. Ricardo was promoted from Supervisor to Senior Supervisor. Mike, an evening shift custodian for 10 years, was promoted to Supervisor.
What's new with you?

Send your photos for us to publish in The Foundation. Wedding, graduation, new baby or just plain fun photos are always welcome. Mail them to Ruth Davis, NE49-2100, or email them to rtdavis@mit.edu.

Illustration by Michael Fahie