

# Footpaths

Volume 2, Number 1

January/February 2002

## Facilities Awards Day

The Facilities Awards Day was held the morning of Wednesday, January 30, 2002 in the lower level of the Chester Fritz Auditorium. A lot of Facilities workers and also guests were in attendance this year to help with the celebration. We are also always happy to see some of the retirees come back to celebrate with the people of Facilities.

This year's program was preceded by a time for refreshments and some good conversation with old friends and people we don't get to visit with often enough.

Larry Zitzow, our director, welcomed everyone to the program. Some special guests joined us this year. They were the department/unit directors from Finance and Operations.

Once again President Charles Kupchella and Vice President for Finance and Operations Bob Gallagher brought greetings, thanks, and encouragement to our group. President Kupchella told us how facilities fits into where he sees UND going in the next few years. Vice President Bob Gallagher said he appreciates the fine workmanship and beautiful appearances of UND because of our workers.

People who were honored for "ZERO SICK LEAVE" were:

Vern Anderson (Sys), David Daucsavage (AC), Marie Fontaine (AC), Roger Gores (AC), Larry Klein (Hsg), James Kotriba (AC), James Laturmus (AC), Janice Lewis (AX), James McKay (AC), Arthur Rice (AC), Mark Schwieters (AC), Robert Russell (AC), Milt Stai (CP), Ray Tozer (SP)



Milt Stai  
Art Rice  
Vern Anderson  
Jim Laturmus

Among the Zero Sick Leave Award Recipients

"1/4 to 8 Hours Sick Leave" awards were given to: Vincent Cadreau (AC), Glenn Christiansen (AC), William Ekren Sr. (AC), Mary Lou Feilen (AC), Loretta Gothberg (AC), Dennis Gunderson (AT), Marco Holter (SP), Dan Kurtz (CC), Robert LaMotte (AC), Maryann Olson (Ofc), Kurtis Papenfuss (AC), Becky Reid (AX), Carol Smaaladen (AX), Rick Tonder (Adm), Pam Zimbelman (Comm).



Maryann Olson  
Marco Holter  
Mary Lou Feilen  
were among the 1/4 to 8 Hours Sick Leave Award Recipients  
Passing out awards is Patti Schmidt.

Others were present, received numerous awards but due to the inexperience of the photographer (me--Gracie) I couldn't snap the pictures fast enough to get them all before they took off runnin'. Same goes for those who are not seen in the Picture Gallery - you were too fast for me! Sorry...

Picture Gallery found on the back

page.....

...Gracie Dahil..

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Other Committee members: Shelly Kain, Deb Merrill,  
Patti Schmidt, Janice Troitte, Pam Zimbelman

**AWARDS DAY PICTURE GALLERY**



President Charles Kupchella enjoying a cup of coffee before the Awards Day begins.



Associate Director Rick Tonder honors Doug Winkler on his retirement.

Coffee cups in hand, they anxiously await the festivities to get underway!!



Larry Zitzow gives Troy Coulter one of the Golden Hammer awards.



Associate Director Paul Clark talking about the retirees.



Jason Uhlir, Safety Director and Paul Clark give out the first Safety Award to Tricia Anderson.

President Charles Kupchella addressing Facilities



Right: Teckla Jacobson receives the prestigious Golden Hammer Award from Larry Zitzow.



Below: Vern Dondoneau, Clarence Thompson, Eugene Purcell were honored for their dedication to the Grounds work.



Vice President Bob Gallager at the Awards Celebration



Robert Russell, Janice Ferguson, Carol Smaaladen, Larry Klein were among workers receiving awards for 0 or under 8 hours sick leave



Mike Yanish was busy studying the award given his shop and was in a hurry to get away from the front of the crowd.





# Thanks!



TO: Karen Myerchin  
FROM: Margaret Myers  
DATE: January 14, 2002

Thank you for all the work you did on the job billing for December to ensure that it was posted by December 31 prior to the Revenue & Expense statement run. I know that you went above and beyond to make sure that your job was complete...It was another example of your commitment to getting your job done with the utmost accuracy and under altered timelines. Again, thank you. It is a pleasure working with a professional like you that I can depend on.

## Another Hero from Facilities

Paul Clark passed on some news that was very special about one of our Buildings Service Technicians at O'Kelly, LeRoy Helmoski.

A student lost a \$100 dollar bill in one of the classrooms at O'Kelly. Of course he was frantic trying to retrace his steps and look for it. LeRoy had found it on the floor and had turned it into his supervisor, Barb Kjemhus. When the young man talked to Barb to tell her which classroom he had been in, she told him that LeRoy had found it and turned it in...he was so thankful someone had found it that was so honest.

This is another story of how good, kind, and honest people are that work in this department. It makes us all proud to be associated with such heroes as LeRoy Helmoski.

## Facilities Frogger says... Know What?

### Fun Stuff about Valentines Day!

(I know I'm late, but it's interesting stuff)



- Valentine's Day is named in memory of St. Valentine of Rome who died in 269 AD. Emperor Claudius II arrested St. Valentine for helping Christian martyrs. After refusing to give up his Christian Faith, he was beaten to death with clubs and beheaded on February 14th. In 469 AD February 14th was set as a day to honor him.

- In the US, Miss Esther Howland is given credit for sending the first valentine cards. Commercial valentines were introduced in 1800s and now the date is very commercialized. Loveland, Colorado does a large post office business around February 14th.

- Some other traditions: in other countries a young woman may receive a gift of clothing from a young man - if she keeps the gift it means she will marry him. In the Middle Ages, young men and women drew names from a bowl to see who their valentines would be. They would wear these names on their sleeves for one week. To wear your heart on your sleeve now means that it is easy for other people to know how you are feeling.

...Deb Merrill...

## Faces in the Crowd

Casper Feist started working as a Building Service Technician in the Academic Area on January 18, 2002. He previously worked for the City of Grand Forks and before that, Plant Services.



Cecilia Ramirez started working as a Building Service Technician in the Housing Area on February 16, 2002 under Josie Fernandez. She previously worked construction on the Air Base and also various custodial jobs.



Fawn Behrens-Smith was hired as an Architect for Facilities working for Rick Tonder on February 19, 2002. She previously worked in Washington State and for Schoen Associates in Grand Forks.



Jeff McHam started working for Nancy Bauer in Building Automation Control on January 16, 2002. Jeff previously worked in other trades including industrial maintenance, plumbing, and pipefitting.



James Rudow was hired as a carpet cleaner on January 29, 2002. The University continues to increase the amount of carpeting so a new position was added to that crew. James previously worked in painting and cleaning carpets.



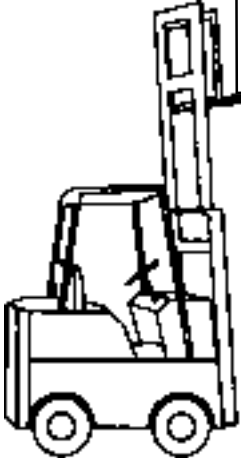
Jeffrey Wright started on January 29, 2002 as a Building Services Technician in the Academic Area in the College of Nursing and Alumni I and Alumni II. Jeff previously worked at various jobs in Minot, ND



...Patti Ryan Schmidt...

To view this Newsletter on the web go to:  
[Facilities.und.nodak.edu/](http://Facilities.und.nodak.edu/)  
then click on News Letter

## Planning for Facilities



The University of North Dakota Facilities Department is proceeding with a number of Energy Retrofit Projects. These projects are designed to reduce the energy consumption, which in turn would reduce energy costs. The Facilities Department selected 25 buildings on campus that would be a part of this project. A complete survey

and audit of these 25 buildings was completed in the year 2000 and then presented to the State Board of Higher Education for their approval. As a result, UND received a 4 million dollar bond for this project with simple pay back of 6.3 years. It will save the University a substantial amount of money through energy savings.

The types of projects included are lighting retrofit, mechanical retrofit, and electrical generation improvement. These projects were not only designed to reduce energy, but to improve the environmental working, teaching, and learning conditions in our buildings. This project will affect about 25% of the square footage of the campus. It will present a new challenge to the Facilities staff. As construction begins, we are asking everyone to participate with your help and ideas. Not only will this project reduce energy costs of about \$640,523 per year; it will provide better environmental and working conditions for the University community. If you have questions or concerns, please call Facilities Communications Center @ 777-2591.

✍...Lisa Tupa...

### Facilities Awards Day (continues)

As a part of the Awards Day celebration, Randy Bohlman received the John Meagher Conservation Award for his work in making the ENERGY RETROFIT PROJECT a reality. Work has already begun on this project with a completion date of June in 2003.

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#### Staff Senate Info:

Recently all classified employees received a form whereby their dependents could apply for a Staff Senate Scholarship. For other staff senate info or any other questions - ask Mike Powers.

Golden Hammer Awards were given to three people this year - Troy Coulter, Dot Benson, and Teckla Jacobson. (see Picture Gallery for pictures of Troy and Teckla...Dot was too fast for me to get a picture of her).

*Troy Coulter* was described by his nominators as being versatile, can operate equipment, keep track of equipment inventory and help coordinate moves and events on campus. Troy uses good judgement when coordinating. He will assess the needs and requirements of the department and then plan a strategy to get the job done with as little inconvenience to the occupants as possible. He has a knack for working with departments and within his own department capabilities. He makes a good ambassador. Sometimes we cannot honor a request and he can diplomatically solve the problem. He can sometimes anticipate what a department needs before they do. Maybe that's why he and his co-workers are invited back for treats after a project is completed!

*Dot Benson* has given us many years of dedicated service (her nominators said). During those years, she has seen many changes and gone through them without complaining. At one point, she could have passed on her duties for cleaning an area, but chose not to do that. She simply adjusted and got the job done. If you talk to people in her area, they all will tell you how friendly and helpful she is. Her manager has testified to her excellent management skills and her special ability to get along with everyone. The offices of the President, Vice President, and other areas on 3rd floor of Twamley stay sparkling clean because of her efforts.

*Teckla Jacobson* is always upbeat, helpful, understanding, and honest in her dealing with people according to her nominators. We are always getting great remarks about her work and attitude from the students in the Hall where she has worked for many years. She has come forward with ideas to use in her work area to make the process go more smoothly and efficiently. She shares her skills with those she has trained over the years. She is very proficient on floor work. She is more than willing to take on more responsibility by filling in for her supervisor with the pager and is quite good at handling situations that come up. She shows good team skills in organizing the task force and in meeting her deadlines (usually ahead of schedule). She proudly wears UND's team colors and shows up for all UND functions.

✍...Gracie Dahl...