New Arrival on Campus

Nina Bisbee joined Bryn Mawr on May 2nd as the College's new Director of Facilities. Nina brings a terrific combination of technical expertise and personal attributes that will ensure we continue to have a campus that is attractive, safe, efficient, and conducive to delivering a top-quality residential higher education experience today and well into the future. Her portfolio of responsibilities include facilities maintenance, capital project management, grounds and sustainability. Nina has spent the past 24 years managing the Philadelphia Zoo's capital program and overall facilities planning efforts. Through her experience as Vice President of Facilities Planning with the Zoo, Nina has expertise with historically significant buildings and the life/safety issues associated with a campus that has around-the-clock operational needs. Throughout her tenure at the Zoo, not only has she initiated infrastructure projects to upgrade the buildings and the water, stormwater, and communications systems, but she also regularly collaborated with the curatorial staff, animal keepers, and guest services teams to ensure that the facilities support the Zoo's conservation/education mission and strategic initiatives.

Prior to the Philadelphia Zoo, Nina had been a Project Manager at an architectural and planning consulting firm. She earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Landscape Architecture from Penn State University and a Master of Urban Planning degree from the University of Michigan.

The Facilities Team

Facilities Services and Housekeeping Services have aligned under the new Director of Facilities Services, Nina Bisbee. The two departments have worked very closely over the last decade. The combined department is comprised of 68 men and women whose goal is to make your time at Bryn Mawr as comfortable and rewarding as possible. We respond to your needs regarding: housekeeping, heating and cooling, electrical, plumbing, windows, doors, locks, keys, recycling and pest control concerns. Our offices are in the Ward Building which is located between Schwartz Gym and Park Science.

We are grouped into five sections – Directors, Call Center, Housekeeping, Trades and Grounds. Joseph Marra is the Associate Director for Planning & Projects and Campus Architect. Project Management is led by Jim McGaffin, the College Engineer. Deb Grant, Associate Director of Business Operations, oversees the Call Center and all administrative requirements of the department. Mike Hyduke and Dana Bradshaw operate the Call Center. Denise Romano is the Director of Housekeeping. Our Trades fall under the Associate Director of Facilities, Harold Maryea. We currently have on staff six HVAC mechanics, three electricians, two plumbers, three carpenters and a locksmith. The leaders of these groups are masters in their trades. The Associate Director of Grounds, Dawn DiGiovanni, oversees our lawn service contractor and advises on all grounds and exterior hardscape related issues. Combined, the team has well over 500 years of experience here at the College!

In the Works...

We are finalizing the design and bidding of a new walkway from the recently completed Campus Center Entrance to the Radnor Parking Lot. This new path will improve accessibility by eliminating the steps near Radnor Hall.

We are also continuing the planning and design phase for Park Science Renovation. As previously reported, (Facilities At Your Services, Volume XV) this project will be constructed in two phases. We are moving forward with detailed design for Phase One and will share images of that work when they become available later this year. Payette, Incorporated of Boston, Massachusetts is the designer for this project. To make way for the new construction, renovations to Bio-Chem space in Park (Rooms 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 276D & 277) will begin shortly with completion schedule for Spring Break.

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY, we can be reached at ext. 7930 Monday through Friday, 7:00am to 5:00pm. After hours and on weekends, please call Campus Safety at ext. 7911. A mechanic is available through Campus Safety dispatch 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
Warmer, Brighter, Cleaner, and More Accessible

This summer, we completed a number of projects in our dorms. In Denbigh Hall, all 368 windows were replaced with energy efficient windows that bring more light into the rooms while improving temperature control and saving energy. A larger common laundry room was created in Merion Hall. Residents now have access to 6 large-capacity, commercial washers and dryers. Rockefeller Hall underwent the largest transformation this summer. Eleven bathrooms were renovated as well as three tea pantries and laundry rooms on the first and second floors. The project created an ADA accessible room and ensured that all floors have an ADA accessible bathroom and tea pantry. Common areas received a fresh coat of paint and additional bench seating was installed. Areas of the building’s façade were repointed and stone restoration was performed. Over Winter Break, new carpeting will be installed in all the common areas of the dorm. Although no one is thinking about the heating season yet, a new energy efficient boiler is currently being installed at Erdman Hall. Come October, you will really appreciate this project.

Still Underway – Thomas Great Hall

This isn’t the first Fall Semester that Thomas Hall has been wrapped in scaffolding. For the past three years, Thomas Hall has undergone exterior envelope repairs including masonry repairs, and roof & window replacement. This summer the final phase of roofing work commenced at the Great Hall. The project is scheduled to be complete by November 1, 2016.

A Plaza, a Pathway and Two Gardens

Our campus has long been touted for its beautiful buildings and grounds. A number of our summer projects focused on landscape improvements. A new pathway to English House was created. The project removed the stairs on the English House side of the crossing and improved the site lines for all pedestrians crossing New Gulph Road.

As you approach the Campus Center, you are sure to notice the new plaza with its larger seating area and reinstalled benches.

Work in the Sunken and Taft Gardens is being completed this fall. The Taft Garden’s restoration focused on the restoration of the fountain and re-pointing the smaller steps. The work at the Sunken Garden is addressing the restoration of the walls and resetting the brick pavers.

While You Were Away...

This summer was a busy one. Our housekeeping staff cleaned and prepared over 900 rooms in the residence halls in preparation for our student’s return which was no small feat and particularly challenging given the weather conditions. Also, over 400 dorm rooms were painted this summer. Our in-house mechanics improved the heating systems in Denbigh, Merion and Radnor to increase the system’s efficiency. Our on-line work order request system - called SchoolDude - received a security upgrade. All community members have access to the request system using their Bryn Mawr College username and password. To submit a request visit us at http://www.brynmawr.edu/facilities/serviceform.shtml

Students, Fill Out The Form!

When you check in with Facilities and receive the key to your room, you also receive a Room Assessment Form. The form gives you the opportunity to assess the condition of your room when you arrive. You should note anything that is unsatisfactory with your room and immediately return the white copy to Facilities Services. Save the yellow copy for your records. With so many things going on, you may be tempted to forget about the form. This may come back to haunt you. The form is used after you leave campus when room inspections are performed. Any damage that is found in the room and was not noted on the Assessment Form will be charged to you and your roommate(s), if applicable. Last year, 78 people were fined for a total of $7,300.00. For a full description of do’s and don’ts and the charges associated with various damages, please read the back of the Assessment Form (http://www.brynmawr.edu/facilities/faq.shtml). If you have any questions, please call ext. 7930.