

Sept/Oct 2011 *Physical Plant Newsletter*



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We are entering an exciting time for VCU and PPD with the recently adopted Quest for Distinction, VCU's update to its strategic plan. Over the course of the next few months we will be exploring how we fit into and help VCU meet the vision described in Quest. While...**Work Hard, Work Smart, Work Safe and Have Fun** are forever enduring, there are specific guiding principles that we need to embrace to help VCU achieve the vision of Quest. For each of the Themes from Quest, listed below, we will create PPD metrics, benchmarks or goals that we that help VCU achieve success in each area. University support organizations like PPD can lose sight of the real extent of our contribution to the university strategic plan. My hope is that by focusing on some select metrics,



Ed Bennett

benchmarks and goals for each area we will understand our impact and of course see VCU move forward in its Quest for Distinction.

Theme I: Become a leader among national research universities in providing all students with high quality learning/living experiences focused on inquiry, discovery, and innovation in a global environment

Theme II: Attain preeminence as an urban, public research university by making contributions in research, scholarship, creative expression, and clinical practice to advance knowledge and enhance the

quality of life

Theme III: Achieve national recognition as a fully-integrated research university with a commitment to human health.

Theme IV: Become a national model for community engagement and regional impact.

PPD Weathered the Hurricane.....



Above- Monroe Park Campus

Hurricane Irene hit Richmond hard and caused more than 1 million people to be without power. Irene closed roads, knocked down trees and caused flash flooding all over Richmond and throughout Virginia. All though we had some communication difficulties, the Designated PPD Employees on site for the storm did an outstanding job.

We also give praise to the employees that have worked hard to clean up from the aftermath.

Physical Plant Administration Building earns EPA's ENERGY STAR Certification for Superior Energy

Written by: Regina Battle

Virginia Commonwealth University's Physical Plant Administration Building has earned the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's **ENERGY STAR certification**, which signifies that the building performs in the top 25 percent of similar facilities nationwide for energy efficiency and meets strict energy efficiency performance levels set by the EPA.

"VCU is pleased to accept EPA's ENERGY STAR certification in recognition of our energy efficiency efforts," said Ed Bennett, executive director of the Physical Plant. "Through this achievement, we have demonstrated our commitment to environmental stewardship while also lowering our energy costs."

Commercial buildings that earn EPA's ENERGY STAR certification use an average of 35 percent less energy than typical buildings and release 35 percent less carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

Since the building was built in 2008, the Office of Energy Management has worked to reduce its energy consumption, and to make it an example to the rest of the university. Improvements include converting from standard fluorescent lighting to LED lights, replacing individual printers with a central copier/printer and adding motion sensors to the office lighting.

EPA's ENERGY STAR energy performance scale helps organizations assess how efficiently their buildings use energy relative to similar buildings nationwide. A building that scores a 75 or higher on EPA's 1-100 scale may be eligible for ENERGY STAR certification.

For more information about energy management at VCU, go to <http://www.energy.vcu.edu>.



Above: PPD Administration Building

New Renewable Energy Sources Reduce Emissions on Campus

- VCU Rice Center Boathouse - A 36 PV Panel Array provides 20 percent of the energy use
- Ginter House - 50 gallon solar thermal domestic hot water heater and 2 PV Array saves 304.2 Therms and reduces greenhouse gas emissions by 0.9 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent
- VCU Central Steam Plant - A 30 PV Panel Array smokestack has an output of 6.6 kilowatts for an energy saves of 4,884 kilowatts and a greenhouse gas reduction of 3.54 MTCDE
- Supplemental biomass gasification unit to the VCU Central Steam Plant has an output of 4.02 million kilowatts for an energy saves of 5.86 million Therms and greenhouse gas reduction of 31,423 MTCDE
- N Deck - 710 PV Panel Array with an out put of 163.3 kilowatts for an energy saves of 184,000 kilowatts and greenhouse gas reduction of 100 MTCDE
- West Broad Street Parking Deck - 780 PV Panel Array with an output of 179.4 kilowatts for an energy savings of 200,000 kilowatts and greenhouse gas reduction of 115 MTCDE
- Shafer Court Dining Center - 750 gallon solar thermal domestic hot water heater for an energy savings of 20,978 Therms and greenhouse gas reduction of 111 MTCDE
Three pole-mounted dual-axis tracking PV systems with an output of 3.6 kilowatts each for an energy savings of 24,000 kilowatts and greenhouse gas reduction of 15 MTCDE

PPD News & Updates

- Thanks to all of the employees involved in the Steam Shutdown. It was a success.
- VCU Solar Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will take place on October 12 @ 10:00am on top of the N Deck.
- CVC Campaign starts on October 3rd, if you would like to donate, please visit the CVC website at www.cvc.vipnet.org/charities.htm or contact Melissa Parrish.
- Check out this article titled "Alternative Nation" which quotes some of our employees; http://www.news.vcu.edu/news/Alternative_Nation

Upcoming Dates & Events

October 14– President Rao’s Inauguration

October 14-16– Family weekend

October 15– Open House

October 20-21 - MP Reading days

November 5– Open House

November 23-27– University closed

December 10– Last day of Fall classes

December 12-16– MCV Final exams

December 12-20– MP Final exams

December 23– Jan 1– University closed

Welcome all new PPD

**Employees! Thanks to the
Retirees for their years of
Service!**

Recognition Awards

Extraordinary Achievement Awards

Sylvia Britt	Carolyn Guss	David Quinn
Trae Harris	Steve Davidson	Gary Coffey
Cassandra Taylor	Melissa Parrish	Frank Gary
Alicia Styles	Jenna Evers	Alcovis Williams
Beverly Beaver	Benita Price	James Farina
Claudia Mangum	Jeff Grimm	Pat Dillon
Joseph Gibson	Sary Seng	Paul Johnson
Russell Harrington	Jose Santory	Michael Mayhew
John Pound	Joseph Landry	Jordan Starbuck
Rachel Elves		

Outstanding Achievement

Robert Huckstep	Michael Risley
John DeVincenzi	Joseph Ellis
Alvin Bower	Bruce Cecil
Jose Bonet	Clifton Williams
Gary Agnew	David Cobb
David Melling	

Spot Awards

Alonzo Robertson	Richard Smith
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PPD Employee Recognition

Ed,

I have been meaning to email this "thanks" to you for about two weeks now!

I wanted to thank whomever had the foresight before Hurricane Irene to bring sandbags for the CDC backdoor. We very much appreciate the fact that you remembered that this old building floods easily. It made coming back to work on Monday that much easier, knowing (or assuming) that we did not have to mop anything up or redirect families.

Again, thank you for being so proactive.

Sincerely, Muriel (Re: Zone 200)

Thanks again for taking care of the air conditioning at our shop. Vince and Jeff are always professional in handling difficult maintenance tasks. That A/C unit has been one of those tasks. Their expert diagnosis and diligence in completing the job helps make this unbearable summer easier to deal with.

Greg Hall

(Re: Zone 500)

Bev. I would like to commend you and your staff on your quick response and resolution of our work order. Thanks again for your help. Mike.

(Re: Zone 300)

Dear Mr. Ware & VCU-

Thank you for the recent donation of desks, tables and shelves. These items will greatly improve our instructional environment and appearance of our classrooms. The items were greatly needed and King and Queen Central High School is searching for ways to improve its appearance and these items will assist with our very low capital outlay allocation.

If there are any other furniture items in the future that you wish to assist the public schools with, King and Queen county would like to be notified. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (804) 785-6102 or at bdavis@kqps.net.

Sincerely,

Bernard S. David III

Principal- King & Queen High School

(Re: Surplus Property)

Brian & Ed-

I just met Tiffany - one of your 7 building house-keeping inspectors - very impressive, professional and polite.

David Hanson

Vice President for Finance and Administration

(Re: Tiffany Witherspoon- Q&A Inspector)

Hi Margaret,

I just wanted to let you know what an excellent job Ed Hartless and his staff did to assist me in an urgent request. We needed our Pulper in Shafer removed asap and they stepped in and got it done almost the same day I submitted the request. I deemed this OUTSTANDING service because we thought it had been removed by an outside plumber weeks before and had not and we needed to use that space to begin our composting program.

Zone 200 always responds quickly even when I call before I submit a ticket.

I always appreciate all the assistance I receive from Facilities.

Thanks!

Yvonne

(Re: Zone 200)