2010

Facilities at Your Service 10 (2010)

Bryn Mawr College Facilities

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Meet the Team

Facilities Services is comprised of 23 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: heating and cooling, electrical, plumbing, windows, doors, locks, keys, OneCard issues, 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 four sections – Directors, Call Center, Trades and OneCard Office. The department is under the direction of Glenn Smith. Joseph Marra is the Assistant Director for Planning & Projects and Campus Architect. Project Management is led by Jim McGaffin, the College Engineer. Deb Grant, Assistant Director of Business Operations, oversees the Call Center and all administrative requirements of the department. Pat Cozzone and Gwen Randolph operate the Call Center. The administrator of the OneCard Office is Bryan Connor. The Trades fall under the Assistant Director for Maintenance & Operations, Harold Maryea. We currently have on staff six HVAC mechanics, three electricians, a plumber, three carpenters and a locksmith. The leaders of these groups are masters in their trades. The Assistant Director of Grounds, Ed Harman, oversees our lawn service contractor and advises on all grounds related issues. Combined, the team has nearly 300 years of experience here at the College. If you need to request services or repairs in your dorm room, you can fill out the service request form at www.brynmawr.edu/facilities/serviceform.shtml or call our Call Center.

Wow!! Did you ever think that Schwartz Gymnasium was just a funny-looking building, hidden out of view at the bottom of the hill for athletes only? Well, look again. Those TV makeover shows have nothing on us. The changes at Schwartz Gym are nothing short of transformational.

The pool feels brand new; the playing courts feel brand new—and we barely touched those spaces. There are windows and glass everywhere; natural light seeps into every corner—quite a change for a building that for its entire 25-year existence only had one window. And let’s not forget the new roof, complete with snow guards—a major undertaking for a building that size.

Staff and coaches have new, modern, functional offices on the first floor. The training room is new. The fully renovated locker rooms are more efficiently arranged, 100% ADA-compliant (as is the entire building) with bright, full-sized lockers and air conditioning.

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Around Campus

We’ve been busy sprucing things up on the outside as well as the inside of our buildings this summer. New plantings at Wyndham recreate the early 1900s landscape with rhododendrons, peonies, and perennials. The Campus Center got a fresh new look with the removal of sections of the surrounding hedge opening the building up to the Green. Speaking of “green,” be on the lookout for a solar powered trash container at the Campus Center in early September. We’ve gone local, too. The student organized Greens Garden, located near Haffner Hall, generated blueberries, celery, watermelons, and lettuce earlier this summer. We will soon be harvesting green beans, tomatoes, and spinach. Visit Bryn Mawr Grounds on Facebook to see fun campus photos and hear about everything going on outside.

Happy Birthday Taylor Hall!

While Bryn Mawr College launches into a year-long 125th anniversary celebration, Taylor Hall also turns 125 this year. The landmark building, built at the highest point on the Bryn Mawr Campus, was completed in 1885 and originally housed the library, the chapel, all classrooms, and administration offices. It is therefore only fitting that Taylor Hall received a much-needed exterior overhaul during the past two summers. This summer we completed the re-pointing of the exterior granite stone, replaced the slate roof on the Denbigh side of the building, rebuilt chimneys, resurfaced pathways and re-landscaped around the building. Named in honor of the founder of Bryn Mawr College, Joseph Wright Taylor, she should now be good for another 125 years.

While You Were Away

Welcome back! We can’t tell you how much we’ve missed you. We’ve been busy while you were away. We hosted hundreds of campers from all over the country and still managed to make a number of improvements across campus. Our large projects tend to get all the attention, but we would be lost without our in-house workforce. Our electricians teamed with students to continue implementing our LED lighting conversion efforts in Radnor and Haffner Halls. They also replaced the fire alarm systems at Denbigh and Erdman. Our plumber and HVAC mechanics were busy upgrading the domestic hot water systems in Denbigh and Radnor, performing heating system repairs in Erdman, addressing plumbing upgrades in Haffner Kitchen and replacing the main water valve in Rockefeller. Denbigh was completely re-keyed by our locksmith with re-keying of Radnor scheduled in the near future. All our trades worked to improve the plumbing in the tea pantries and bathrooms in Merion. We also managed to paint over 300 rooms and replace all the mattresses in Haffner.
Green Update: Bulbs, Bulbs, Everywhere are Bulbs

In February, President Jane McAuliffe set a goal to reduce the College’s yearly carbon footprint by 10% within a 10-year period. To help meet this goal, two Bryn Mawr students, Yufan Wang ’11 and Katie Link ’12, conducted research this summer under the supervision of Professor Victor Donnay of the Mathematics Department and Jim McGaffin, the College’s Engineer. The goal of the students was to complete a Campus Sustainability Project focusing on LED conversion. Their research included calculating a Return on Investment plan and projecting the impact of the College’s carbon emission footprint. The students inventoried 11 buildings and counted over 7,000 bulbs! The students also worked to create a database of green projects that will be accessible to the College community as well as others. This fall they will present their findings to the College Treasurer. Ultimately, Yufan and Katie would like to establish connections between teaching math and sustainability, using this hot topic as a motivational tool in the classroom. To find out more about how they spent their summer visit their blog


Coombe Special Collections Suite at Canaday

Renovations are being completed on the second floor of Canaday Library for the The Eva-Jane Coombe Special Collections Suite. When completed, the suite will create a highly visible and elegant space for Bryn Mawr’s cultural collections to be viewed and studied by students, faculty, visiting scholars from around the world, and people from the community interested in the arts and humanities.

The suite consists of three public areas. An Exhibition Foyer and gallery will create a highly visible and open environment for celebrating the College’s rich cultural collections as well as a venue for student art exhibits. A Seminar/Exhibition Room will function for teaching as well as for exhibitions. A Reading Room will allow for viewing of original cultural materials for research activities. In addition to these spaces, the suite includes offices and workspaces for Special Collections and Arts and Artifacts staff. The project is scheduled to be completed Fall 2010.

Dorms Like Palaces

According to the Princeton Review, Bryn Mawr boasts the finest dorms in the country, but it takes constant effort to keep them in tip-top condition. This summer, Radnor, Erdman, and Pembroke East were the beneficiaries of major projects. Radnor saw its tea pantries upgraded. In Erdman, all B and C diamond bathrooms were completely renovated. Bathrooms were completely redone in Pembroke East as well, along with significant structural repairs to five window bays. And while it’s not exactly a student dorm, Wyndham, the oldest building on campus, received replacement windows and shutters, and fresh paint on both the outside and inside.
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 by Facilities 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, 82 people were fined for a total of $2,330.00. 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. If you have any questions, please call ext. 7930.

Smart Women, Strong Women
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Yet all these upgrades and improvements pale in comparison to the changes made to the main entrance, lobby, and second floor fitness center. You now enter the building to a two-story atrium with sweeping curved stairway to a truly state-of-the-art fitness center. The very latest in high-tech cardio and weight training equipment fill the space. Programmable video screens and individual audio jacks have been added, but they will be competing with the beautiful campus vistas on display through the huge new windows. Interior windows also allow spectators to view action in the pool or gymnasium court areas. Finally, a large, multi-purpose room will permit all sorts of classes—aerobics, pilates, yoga, and even spinning, thanks to a new fleet of 13 spin bikes.

Yes, there’s only one word for Smart Women, Strong Women—Wow!!