Programming Offerings

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 (9:45am – 10:45am)

Bringing Digitalization to Higher Education Facilities
Digitization is optimizing our daily lives and industries all around us. Joins us as our colleagues from Stanford University and the University of Florida share how their institutions are pioneering the digitalization movement in higher education by investing in their digital architecture over the past several years. Discussions will highlight their successes, such as Energy savings, CapEx and OpEx savings, and higher comfort scores, as well as share strategies and best practices that other institutions could follow.
Presenter(s): Sanjyot Bhusari, Principal, Affiliated Engineers, Inc.; Gerry Hamilton, Director – Facilities Energy Management, Stanford University; Gregg Clarke, Senior Director of Operations, University of Florida

PROGRAM AREA TAG: Future of SMART Building Technologies

Crafting an ESPC Roadmap: Leadership Insights
A strategic perspective on implementing ESPC projects, aiming to meet and surpass benchmarking and building performance standards, is critical. Participate in a session to inspire and guide university leaders, administrators, and decision-makers in pursuing sustainable energy solutions. By delving into the experiences of key stakeholders, the conversation will provide valuable insights into the strategic considerations, challenges, and successes encountered throughout the project development journey. Emphasizing the importance of balancing short-term financial considerations with long-term sustainability goals, the presentation advocates for a holistic approach that carefully considers both immediate and future impacts on the university’s infrastructure.

PROGRAM AREA TAG: The Sustainable Campus

Session Information Forthcoming

PROGRAM AREA TAG: Crisis Planning & Response

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 (11:15am – 12:15pm)

Engaging the Workforce of the 21st Century
According to PeopleReady.com, “Over the next ten years, one-third of skilled trades pros will retire faster than younger workers enter the field to replace them, leaving more than 3 million skilled trade jobs unfilled by 2028.” Facilities Managers need solution-focused strategies to overcome this demographic crisis. Join us as we discuss motivation, professional development, and recruiting strategies for FM’s to consider and incorporate within their organizations.
Presenter: Jeff Benjamin, Associate Vice President, Facilities Management Division, University of Georgia

PROGRAM AREA TAG: The Talent Shortage

Session Information Forthcoming

PROGRAM AREA TAG: Staying Relevant Amidst Future Uncertainties & Disruption

As of January 26, 2024
ASHRAE: Resource for Decarbonization
As we continue our collaborative efforts with ASHRAE, join us for a conversation to examine how the ASHRAE standards and guidelines can shape the built environment’s future to reduce carbon emissions. We will also look at the impact of ASHRAE government outreach on the legislation and regulations that directly impact the built environment’s design, construction, and operation.
Presenter: Darryl K Boyce, ASHRAE Past President / Owner, Boyce Consulting Services
PROGRAM AREA TAG: The Sustainable Campus

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 (1:00pm – 2:00pm)

Data-Driven Capital Planning
Communication is critical to the successful implementation of any capital planning endeavor. Join us as we explore through the lens of two universities the various challenges encountered and how to overcome these challenges. Explore the best practices that come from empowering facilities & operational teams with critical data & mitigating the effects of lost knowledge through staff turnover. Engage in conversation around how to build credibility with financial decision-makers for tremendous success with funding requests through a data-driven approach and the criticality of prioritizing projects across your portfolio & tools for reporting.
Presenter(s): David Tilton, Operations Manager, University of Colorado; Gregory Gibson, Senior Director, University of Colorado; Joseph Kimitch, Lead Engineer, UC Anschutz Medical Campus; Derek van Zijl, McKinstry
PROGRAM AREA TAG: Future of SMART Building Technologies

Best Practices for Overcoming Staffing Challenges
Higher education faces significant staffing challenges, including attracting & retaining qualified talent, managing turnover, and offering competitive pay & benefits. Be part of the conversation where we identify the right people and equip them with the right tools. Discuss how personnel can be managed more efficiently through four critical areas: streamlined hiring processes, continual training to improve performance & quality, implementation of retention engagement & appreciation, benefits, commitment to DEI, and offering opportunities for career advancement.
Presenter(s): Cindy Williams, Vice President - Education Solutions, ABM Industries; Jonathan Romines, Regional Vice President, ABM Industries; Gabe Dreiling, Director Facilities Management, Oklahoma State University
PROGRAM AREA TAG: The Talent Shortage

Under the Hood View
In 2015, to better serve the growing needs of the department and the more excellent university, the University of Kansas reset its Computerized Maintenance Management Software (CMMS). Join this presentation to learn how the system was rebuilt to be an ‘all in one’ system to handle customer requests, work order information, mobile work order usage, simplified universal workflow, inventory, preventive maintenance, space management, and automated billing. Learn how, with an eye for communication, futureproofing, reliable metrics, and universal usability, this change creates priceless best practices!
Presenter: Shawn Harding, Director - Facilities Services, The University of Kansas
PROGRAM AREA TAG: Resource Allocation & Workload Prioritization

As of January 26, 2024
Tuesday, April 16, 2024 (2:30pm – 3:30pm)

Session Information Forthcoming
PROGRAM AREA TAG: Creating that Elusive Sense of Belonging

Enhancing School Safety with Facilities Management
Between 2000 - 2021, the US experienced 433 casualties, including 183 dead in school shootings. Yet frequently, after such an incident, the rhetoric focuses on fortifying schools or arming faculty, which both carry high costs and risks for college students. Turning a school into the Pentagon is not the answer. Research suggests there are practical, safer options such as selected K-9s on campus, panic button apps, Counselor SROs, and more. Join us for this session as we explore options and best practices.
Presenter: Dan Demland, Senior Architect / Faculty, Arizona State University
PROGRAM AREA TAG: Crisis Planning & Response

Decarbonization Roadmap for Campuses
Decarbonization is a present focus at the international, national, state / provincial, and local levels. Decarbonization will not be a short-term process for extensive discrete facilities and campuses with present large-scale heating and cooling systems. Join us for the discussion as we identify challenges and potential solutions for a multi-year roadmap toward large-scale facilities and campus decarbonization, leveraging current and emerging technologies.
Presenter: David Handwork, Chief Engineering & Technology Officer, United Commercial Energy Partners
PROGRAM AREA TAG: Future of SMART Building Technologies

Tuesday, April 16, 2024 (4:00pm – 5:00pm)

Catastrophe on Campus
The unexpected can happen at any time. In late June 2018, the Dalhousie University community experienced a fire in the principal academic building on their agricultural campus. Learn the challenges of creating temporary arrangements for the immediate summer term, fall, and rebuild schedule. Hear of best practices that allowed them to create a plan, keeping the institution’s overall mission at the forefront while prioritizing decisions with honesty, transparency, and respect for the loss suffered by the community.
Presenter: Nicola Embleton Lake, Assistant Director Space Management, Dalhousie University
PROGRAM AREA TAG: Crisis Planning & Response

Calibrating Collaborative Teams
In today’s environment, teams are stretched to capacity. Behaviors of ‘over-stretching’ are creating stress and division amongst teams and organizations. Participate in this self-reflective session that will allow individuals to reconnect with the fundamentals of collaboration, inclusion, and respect in the workplace.
Presenter: Julius R Williams, APPA Academy Faculty / Coordinator Environmental Health & Safety, Prince William County Schools
PROGRAM AREA TAG: Staying Relevant Amidst Future Uncertainties & Disruption

Sustainable and SMART Infrastructure Renewal at the University of Florida
Renewing infrastructure, reducing deferred maintenance, and deploying smart tech is key for the University of Florida to transform its campus through utility efficiency projects using a blended capital funding model paired with financed work repaid with guaranteed savings. Learn how the campus is shifting to data-driven insights via advanced IoT tech, digital twins to optimize facilities’ lifecycles, and a microgrid system to improve sustainability and resiliency with University of Florida students participating throughout the process.

As of January 26, 2024
Presenter(s): Marc Craddock, Team Leader - Florida Higher Education ESCO, Siemens Smart Infrastructure; Mark Helms AVP Facilities Services, University of Florida

PROGRAM AREA TAG: Future of SMART Building Technologies

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 (10:45am – 11:45am)

Session Information Forthcoming

PROGRAM AREA TAG: Resource Allocation & Workload Prioritization

SMART Campus: University of Toronto’s Tech-Driven Future
Innovation is key! Join us as the University of Toronto shares the work of researchers on the SMART tech team change they operate. Hear how our collaboration’s process, progress, and goals focused on operation optimization via reinforcement learning and digital twinning using facilities as living labs. Explore best practices on creatively building automation for better effectiveness and efficiency amidst economic and cyber concerns, upgrading dashboards, and integrating fault detection into controllers.
Presenter(s): Jelena Vulovic Basic, Senior Manager - Mechanical Building Services, University of Toronto; Michelt Carvalho, Manager, Building Automation & Operations, University of Toronto; Seungjae Lee, Assistant Professor-Department of Civil & Mineral Engineering, University of Toronto

PROGRAM AREA TAG: Future of SMART Building Technologies

Key to the Future: University of Alaska Fairbanks’ Security Overhaul
The University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) faced a security crisis with outdated and compromised access control systems, prompting costly emergency re-keys. A major lost key event underscored the urgency for change. UAF retired obsolete systems addressing ADA compliance, emergency planning, and maintenance costs. The project includes a door hardware survey, planning and execution, standardization, and enhanced security. Now 65% complete, UAF’s project exemplifies commitment and provides insight.
Presenter: Jason Schoening, Electrical and Trades Maintenance Shop Supervisor, University of Alaska – Fairbanks

PROGRAM AREA TAG: Crisis Planning & Response

As of January 26, 2024