

*Toward Sustainable, Inclusive, & Inspiring*  
**FACILITIES**



**Facilities & Services**

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

# ILLINOIS IS MOVING



## Ehab Kamarah

Associate Vice Chancellor & Executive Director,  
Facilities & Services

**Facilities & Services' mission is to provide an inspiring, safe, inclusive, and sustainable physical environment that fosters the research, teaching, and public engagement mission of the university.**

Our team of more than 1,100 hardworking, devoted, and diverse professionals take enormous pride in serving the Urbana campus and contributing to the success of one of the world's top universities and home of the finest research and teaching institutions in the country. The commitment and resolve of our team was tested to the core during the pandemic to keep our campus operational while protecting all of us from the virus. F&S frontline teams worked during the pandemic, to complete construction projects, provide power, heating and cooling to our campus, clean our buildings, erect and maintain COVID testing stations, respond to emergencies, and implement thorough and comprehensive health

and safety protocols, which contributed significantly to the low COVID positive cases among the U of I community compared to Champaign County positive cases.

Our team doesn't take the privilege of serving this great institution lightly and we always look for opportunities to perfect our services to the campus by focusing on our customers, delivering innovative solutions, and being a steward of the university resources. Since I was honored to be named as the Associate Vice Chancellor and Executive Director of F&S, I have had the opportunity to meet with many leaders on campus who were very generous with their time and excited about the role F&S will play in building a brighter future and greater impact on this world-class university. It is critical to continuously engage with our campus partners to capture their aspirations, better understand their expectations, and gather their perspective on where we excel and where there are opportunities for improvement. I renewed to the campus leaders the F&S team's unwavering commitment to support the teaching and research mission of the university by continuously striving to

# IG FORWARD



provide quality services in a consistent, responsive, reliable, efficient, collaborative, and customer-focused manner. To meet the campus expectations, F&S is committed to:

1. Enhance communication, engagement, consultation, collaboration, and partnerships with the campus community. This publication is part of these efforts to continuously communicate and update the community with our services, projects, and initiatives.
2. Ensure F&S services are delivered in a timely and cost-efficient manner. F&S will develop a new inspiring Strategic Plan to align F&S' directions with the university strategic direction.
3. Improve the condition of facilities and the landscape. F&S is in the process of retaining a consultant, in collaboration with UIC and UIS, to conduct a Facility Condition Assessment (FCA). Updated FCA data will enable F&S to develop a comprehensive plan to tackle the deferred maintenance backlog effectively in a cost-efficient manner, with minimal disruption to campus operations.
4. Promote an environmentally sustainable operation to meet the university sustainability commitment to fight climate changes. F&S, in collaboration with the Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment, is working to develop "Solar Farm 3" to generate 90,000 MWh/year to bring the on-campus energy generated by clean power to almost 140,000 MWh/year.
5. Collaborate with the research community to transform the campus to a living lab. We will engage with the academic and research community to play an essential role in achieving campus sustainability goals. These efforts will help meet the university carbon neutrality commitment and enhance sustainability education and research.

**Sincerely,**

*E. Kamarah*

**Dr. Ehab Kamarah**

# ACADEMIC COLLABORATION

## Waste Transfer Station

The Waste Transfer Station (WTS) takes in about 50,000 pounds of trash each day combining sorted material and direct dump trash from laboratories and food facilities. Two recent tour groups saw this live and firsthand: "Saving FACE (Food, Agriculture, Construction, & Environment) Around the World. This group of twenty-one 10th-12th graders came from around the world to participate in one of the many camps run by the Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE) Program by The Grainger College of Engineering; campers are interested in Agricultural & Biological Engineering (ABE).

ABE professor Luis Rodriguez, associate director of Education & Outreach for Institute for Sustainability, Energy, and Environment (iSEE) thought up the tour idea. He and other iSEE affiliates suggested tours in the sustainability realm.

So, after WTS campers headed to the Energy Farm, a 320-acre space managed by the College of ACES, and Solar Farm 2.0, where 12.3 megawatts (MWdc) energy is produced by 31,122 bifacial panels.

The second camp was the ABE team from Discovering STEM in ACES Program (DSAP), part of the College of ACES. Seven high school students, mostly from Chicagoland, visited.

Both tour groups appreciated the real-world, hands-on work performed by F&S.

## Abbott Power Plant

Abbott Power Plant is a massive co-generation energy facility that supplies steam and electricity to the campus. This one-of-a-kind co-generation power station regularly hosts tours. Once inside with a safety helmet, goggles, and ear protection, visitors can see a landscape of pipes, gauges, and skilled operators, each working in harmony to supply most of the energy needed to power, heat, and cool campus buildings.

## Solar Farm 2.0

Since it started producing power in 2021, Solar Farm 2.0 has become a must-see for campus visitors. Spread across 54 acres, this array produces 12.3 megawatts (MWdc). Recently, Chancellor Jones and other university leaders visited F&S to learn more about power production and academic collaborations at the solar farm. Pollinator-friendly plants were installed to help grow and diversify the bird and wildlife that travel through and make the land their home. Two major research projects, Sustainably Co-locating Agricultural & Photovoltaic Electricity Systems (SCAPES) and Pollinator Habitat Aligned with Solar Energy (PHASE), are using the land to further study bees and birds.

F&S tours are part of the Illinois Human Resources "Know Your U" program, which aims to spotlight campus resources for the community and employees.

## F&S tours:

[go.fs.illinois.edu/RecyclingTour](https://go.fs.illinois.edu/RecyclingTour)

[go.fs.illinois.edu/Abbott-Tours](https://go.fs.illinois.edu/Abbott-Tours)

[go.fs.illinois.edu/SolarFarmTours](https://go.fs.illinois.edu/SolarFarmTours)





# INTERNSHIP PROGRAMS

F&S is dedicated to diversity and inclusion in the workplace, an objective outlined in the F&S Strategic Plan. Events, gatherings, and education all further those efforts, often from the F&S Diversity & Inclusion Committee. An internship program addresses the next generation of workers: the Diversity Intern Program (DIP).

University of Illinois students learn on the job to spark interest and gain experience in Capital Programs, where they interactively learn building construction project management techniques and background information in the field. Three masters' students from the Construction Management Program are interning with Capital Programs by supporting documentation needs and shadowing project managers.

Eleven high school students and graduates worked for eight summer weeks in the F&S Pre-Apprentice program, part of the Office of the Associate Chancellor and Illinois Human Resources' Summer Youth Employment Program. Students shadowed workers like plumbers, locksmiths, elevator mechanics and more.

**“It’s cemented my interest in the electrical field,”** said Thomas Davison, a pre-apprentice from Centennial, at the end of the summer celebration lunch. **“A lot of these guys have years and years of experience and I’ve talked to them a lot about what the next steps after my school should be, and what it looks like on the outside, like with the U of I.”**

Said Nathan Smith, the father of Victoria Smith (Novak Academy):

**“This is a way to help kids focus and learn from the real world.”**



# DEFERRED MAINTENANCE

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Capital Programs has partnered with University of Illinois Chicago and the UI System to release a Request for Proposal for a consulting firm which will form a comprehensive Facility Condition Assessment for all University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign facilities. This assessment will give a more granular look at the overall condition of Urbana campus facilities and how to better address the deferred maintenance backlog.

This effort is based on the need for current, up-to-date information on the conditions of our facilities. The information is used to help identify and prioritize deferred maintenance issues on campus so Illinois can use funding to renew aging infrastructure and direct funding to target significant upcoming life-cycle cost needs.

# SUMMER CONSTRUCTION

More than 40 capital improvement projects occurred on the Urbana campus this summer. Upgrades to facilities are vital to meeting the university's strategic goals and feature classroom and laboratory modernizations, accessibility improvements, life-safety upgrades, infrastructure renewal, and enhancements to building mechanical systems in support of energy conservation efforts. The F&S Summer Construction 2022 list ([go.fs.illinois.edu/SummerConstruction2022](https://go.fs.illinois.edu/SummerConstruction2022)) is available in full. Some construction was completed through 'deferred maintenance,' a means of addressing previously postponed maintenance and upgrades from an entity's normal operating budget cycle due to a lack of funds.

'Building Emergency'-level masonry reconstruction addressed three core academic buildings on campus: Noyes Laboratory, Wohlers Hall, and Madigan Laboratory. The

work addressed chimneys at all three buildings, and firewalls at Noyes. The Illinois Capital Development Board managed the bid process and contracts.

At the Materials Science and Engineering Building, deferred maintenance costs were used to improve subsoil drainage, preventing water intrusion.

The Advanced Computation Building (ACB) had its roof replaced, along with the removal of rooftop HVAC equipment because the building connected to the Campus Chilled Water System. ACB also replaced two uninterruptable power systems that serve the Technology Services-managed data center.

For questions about deferred maintenance, contact Brad Klein [bradklei@illinois.edu](mailto:bradklei@illinois.edu).



# ENERGY RELIABILITY IN CAMPUS FACILITIES

Rob Roman, director of Utilities & Energy Services, is putting out the word about energy reliability:

**“This is the start of a long process and we are changing the way of life.”**

Building managers and users are encouraged to find ways to “shed load,” or use less power, particularly during peak periods as a way to plan for the possibility of controlled grid outages.

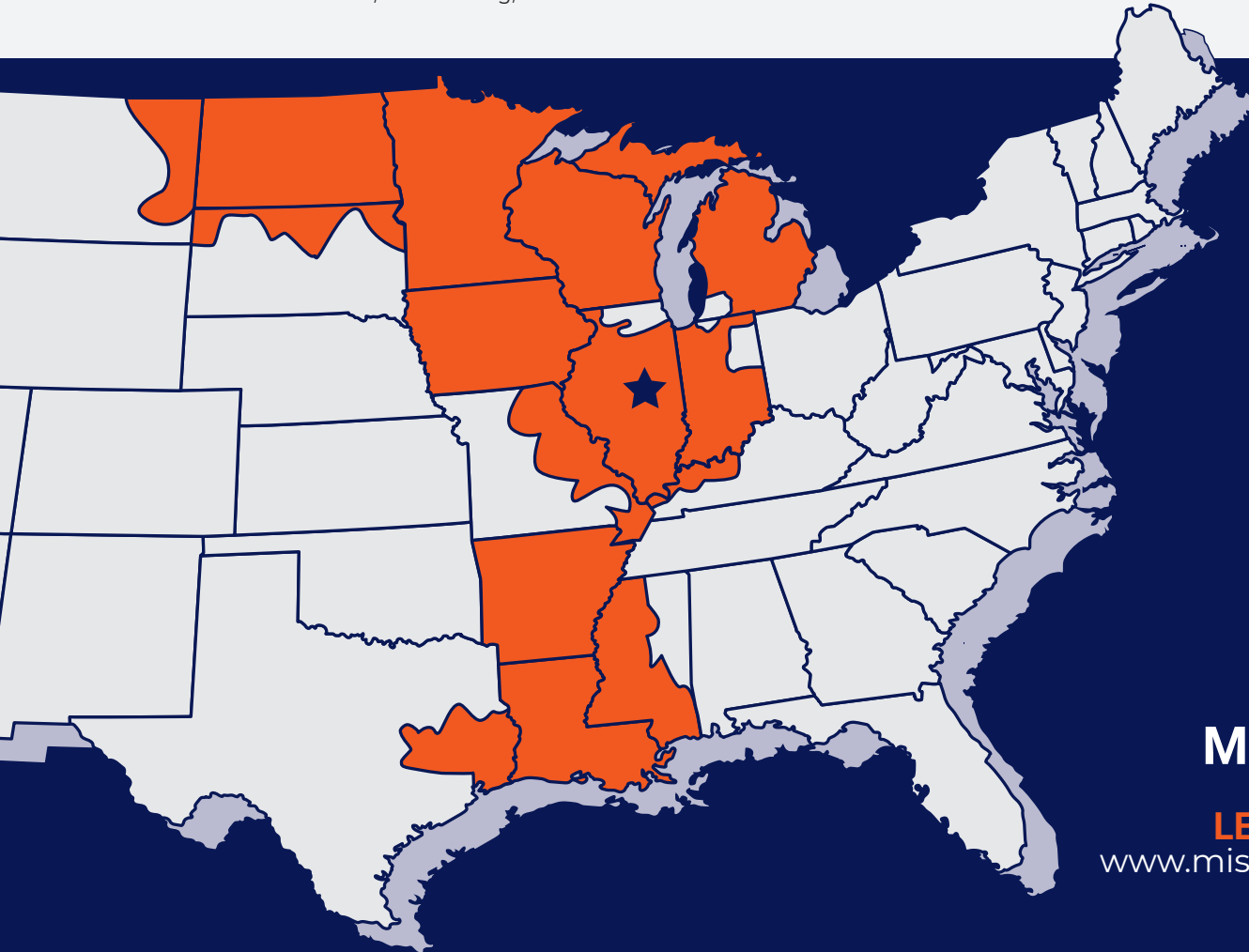
This is not simply a University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign problem or affecting only Ameren customers, but rather a consideration for any building using power as a participant in the MISO grid (Mid-Continent Independent System Operator) across a 15-state region in the U.S.

Roman and other experts in energy production, distribution, and conservation have met, are meeting, and will meet with

building managers to discuss methods for safely accomplishing rolling energy brownouts, if necessary. This, in addition to other ways to save energy, particularly during extreme hot or cold weather.

F&S is sending a form to facility managers to evaluate the building and all its energy needs and systems to figure out when and where to hit the off button. Many buildings house energy-intensive systems that support the mission-critical needs of researchers. But many parts of buildings, down to the circuit or even outlet, can be identified as non-critical. This would include turning off or dimming lights, turning off non-essential equipment and power strips, shutting down unused offices, classrooms, or conference rooms, and shifting schedules in an effort to flatten the curve.

“This is a call to action,” said Paul Foote, conservation specialist. “We want to know the critical stuff that has to stay on.”



**MISO Grid**

**LEARN MORE**

[www.misoenergy.org](http://www.misoenergy.org)



# CAMPUS LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN

The Campus Landscape Master Plan (CLMP) develops a shared vision for the overall campus landscape along with specific design guidance to achieve the framework and principles set forth in the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Master Plan. The CLMP aims to provide detailed objectives to create a campus landscape that fosters an appreciation for the Illinois natural and cultural heritage and protects historic university landscapes. Phase 1 is expected to start next summer, which may address one of 11 camputown districts as defined in the CLMP.

**The benefits of a multifunctional and well-managed campus landscape are wide-reaching and multi-faceted, from simple campus beautification to sustainable carbon sequestration, from living lab experiences to natural stress reduction and passive recreation. Campus grounds contribute to the economic sustainability of our university.**

Some concepts illustrated in the prototypes include redesigning Centennial Court and Anniversary Plaza on the Main Quad, supporting landscapes with native and pollinator friendly plantings, building infrastructure to protect valued water resources, increasing immersive and outdoor educational spaces, enhancing accessibility features across campus, and reflecting Indigenous peoples and history within the campus landscape.

This plan was approved by UI System President Timothy L. Killeen in July.

The CLMP considers three previously published documents: the 2018 Campus Master Plan, the Resilient Landscape Strategy, and Illinois Climate Action Plan.



*Sustainability*

# ATHLETICS

## PRACTICE FACILITIES UPDATES

### **Susan and Clint Atkins Baseball Training Center**

The new 23,500 GSF indoor training facility for Illini Baseball includes space for a complete baseball infield, an adjacent player and recruiting lounge, and pitching and batting areas with retractable netting for player development. The Susan and Clint Atkins Baseball Training Center will connect to the existing Illinois Field baseball clubhouse, locker rooms, training rooms, and offices. A new paved parking area and entrance gateway to Illinois Field will be also be added from Kirby Avenue. The facility will give Illini Baseball an around-the-clock training center that will allow athletes to excel at the highest level with the goal of winning Big Ten championships and competing to reach the College World Series and play for national titles.

### **Rex and Alice A. Martin Softball Training Center**

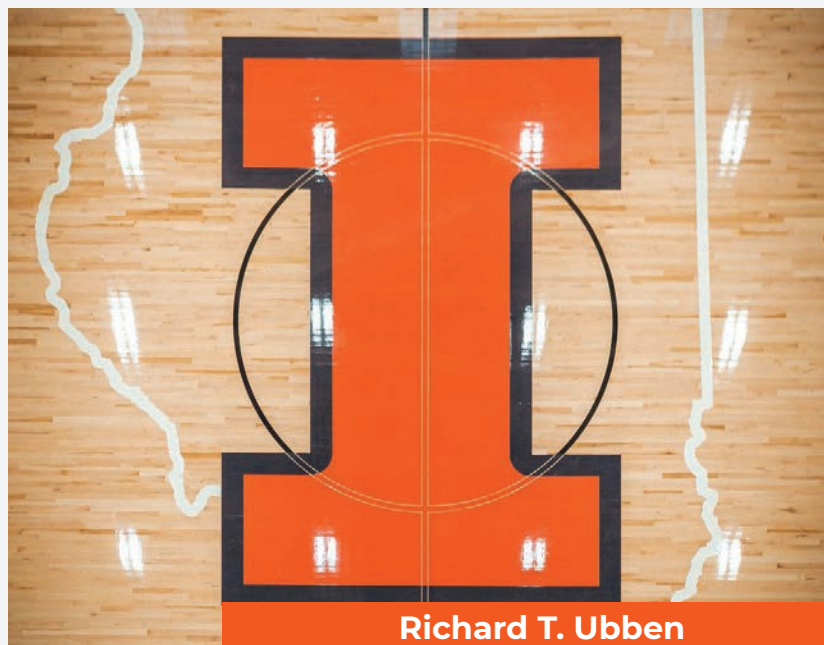
The new 12,440 GSF Rex and Alice A. Martin Softball Training Center was constructed adjacent to Eichelberger Field. The center includes a full infield as well as hitting and pitching cages. The facility also features an expanded player lounge, new recruiting lobby, and hall of fame area. The softball training facility will be designed to allow Illini student-athletes to train year-round in pursuit of excellence.

### **Ubben Basketball Complex Expansion**

The current size of the Richard T. Ubben Basketball Complex will increase from approximately 40,000 GSF to about 71,000 GSF. Two additional half-court areas will be added. A new entry will be created off St. Mary's Road including a circle drive and parking for recruits and their families, as well as a large glass-enclosed recruiting lounge. Upgraded features include new coaches offices, meeting rooms, a comprehensive sports medicine area with treatment and recovery areas, including hydrotherapy pools, new locker rooms, player lounges, and team meeting rooms.



**Susan and Clint Atkins  
Baseball Training Center**



**Richard T. Ubben  
Basketball Complex**



## Rex and Alice A. Martin Softball Training Center



"Alice strongly believed that her University of Illinois MBA Degree changed her life for the better. She wanted to give back to the University in order to give others the same experience that she had. This new softball team indoor facility will give the young women on the team the ability to develop their leadership, teamwork and decision-making skills. These skills will allow them to be successful individuals and be strong contributors to society."

- REX MARTIN





# Facilities & Services

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



*Can you find this  
Bee inside?*



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