

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



Facilities & Services



# HONEST CONVERSATIONS



## Jeff Angiel

Associate Vice Chancellor & Executive Director  
of Facilities & Services

Maintaining positive relationships and coming together to achieve common goals helps F&S serve the campus community. There will be more “Honest Conversations” to come.

By regularly talking with our partners, we learn their challenges, their desired outcomes, and help them achieve their goals. We truly are a service organization in that way, which strives to provide guidance, skills, and resources to help our campus collaborators achieve their aspirations.

To fuel those discussions, we simply ask for one thing: an open-minded exchange of their desires and our capacity of resources available to meet those goals. We need to know about that squeaky door like we discuss in our locksmiths shop spotlight; we need to hear about stakeholder needs at parking decks; we need to investigate how students and faculty use bikes; and we want to make the extra effort to collaborate with others like us who maintain university campuses to help us all learn from one another

to provide the best service possible at Illinois.

A high-level goal for our organization is to provide the answer to so many questions that come our way regarding daily operations and future planning with regard to the physical landscape around us.

I'm excited to engage with campus leaders like deans, directors, and department heads. I know their experiences and desires will help improve our services, something that is essential to the operation of this world-class university.

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jeffrey Angiel'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Jeffrey Angiel

# CIF: AN AWARD WINNING BUILDING

By Jalynn Bugaj, F&S Customer Relations & Communications Intern

**Exciting news! The Campus Instructional Facility (CIF) has been honored with the prestigious ‘Design and Construction Award’ from the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC).**

Each year, the USGBC Local Market Leadership Awards celebrate outstanding projects, people, and partners who are making a real difference by building better spaces and improving communities across the country. These awards recognize those who are setting new standards in sustainability, innovation, and design excellence.

A distinguished panel of judges, consisting of leaders and experts from across the USGBC community, evaluated projects based on their LEED certification level, plus another GBCI (Green Business Certification Inc.) rating system, as well as their goals, strategies, performance, impact, and how they inspire change in their local markets.

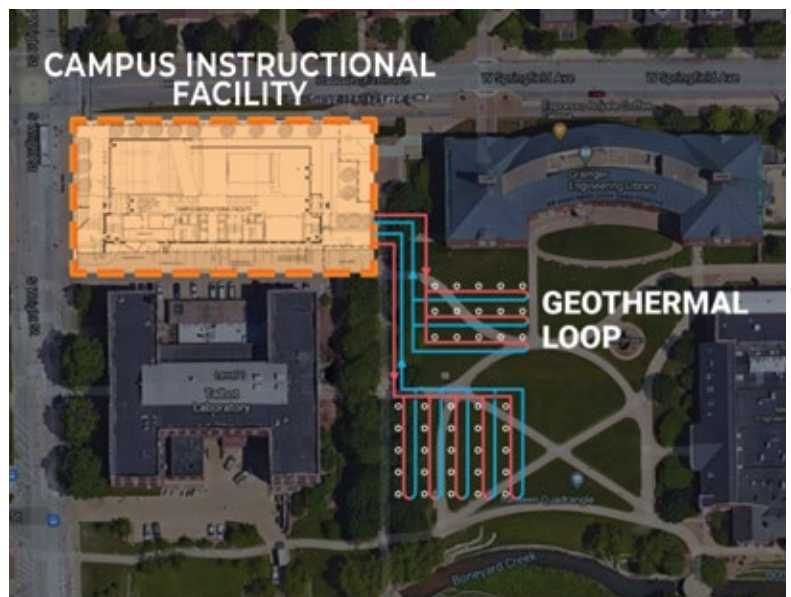
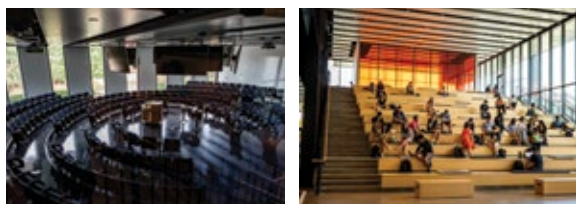
## So, what makes the CIF stand out?

It’s a state-of-the-art learning hub designed in collaboration with students and faculty. With flexible classrooms, advanced technology, and a commitment to sustainability, CIF is designed with the goal to achieve

net zero operational carbon. More than just a building, it’s a space that fosters innovation, inclusion, and campus pride while complementing the surrounding campus environment.

## CIF utilizes geothermal energy to help this along.

Morgan White, associate director of Sustainability said, “CIF is the first large building for this campus to include geothermal as a key component in the design for heating and cooling. Geothermal exchange uses the steady temperature of the earth, just below the freeze-thaw line, to provide heating and cooling to a building. As a founding member of the Illinois Geothermal Coalition, Facilities & Services team members joined other sustainability advocates around campus to encourage the design team of CIF to include geothermal.”



# DRIVING IN A REFRESH: C7 and C10 Parking Structures

**F&S promotes and encourages active transportation on campus, but often, a personal vehicle is needed for students, faculty, staff, and visitors. And finding campus parking in the core of campus typically brings stress and questions: Where will I park? If I need accessible accommodations, are they available? How do I pay? Will I get a ticket? Can I charge my electric vehicle there? Will it be safe?**

With the redevelopment of two structures in the heart of campus, C7 (Sixth St. and John St.) and C10 (Fifth St. and Daniel St.), these questions and more are answered. The facilities hold 647 spaces—including 22 electric vehicle chargers and 26 ADA spots—and account for about 60% of “heart of campus” parking capacity.

In a celebration of completion with project leaders, Chancellor Robert J. Jones remarked, “these investments really align with the historic excellence of this university.”



“They’re critical not only for accessibility and for safety and for providing the important function of giving people a place to park, which we still need,” Jones continued. “We have a large number of people who depend on these particular assets to be able to come here, park as close as possible as they can to their place of work, and to be able to access these facilities in a safe manner, and that we can deliver parking at an afford-

able price. We are very, very proud of these projects and how they all came together as another example of our commitment to excellence and safety at this great university.”

So, what work improved C7 and C10?

A series of repairs, maintenance, and renovations fundamentally made these decks brand new, particularly structurally.

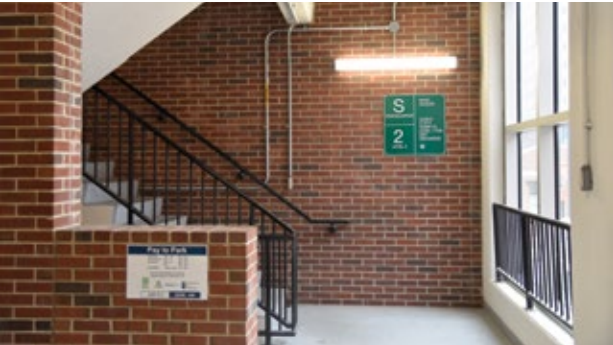
Floors, walls and columns, ceilings and beams, stairs and elevators, retaining walls, mechanical and electrical systems, the façade, and the waterproofing system were all addressed. This includes a brand-new elevator in C10.

Users will notice the ceiling paint that brightens the space and the traffic coating which protects the concrete floors, but may not notice new power generators, a new electrical and IT room, and buried electrical conduit lines. Both decks have been upgraded to industry-standard fiber optics and copper cabling connected to university IT infrastructure. Each parking structure has eight security cameras, an emergency phone at every floor stairwell, and an outdoor emergency phone on street level.





Check out the new  
Safety Store!



## SUPPORTING ANIMAL RESEARCH

One of the early stages of repairing C7 and C10 was to brace parts of the C10 ceiling that were structurally weak with wooden beams.

After their service, which began in 2018 and were in place until 2024, these giant pieces of lumber were seen as, “too valuable to simply throw away,” according to Stacey DeLorenzo, transportation systems manager and leader of the C7 and C10 renovation project.

She inquired with F&S mill workers and other units on campus whether they wanted the wood to use on a separate project. Eventually, a suitor appeared: Veterinary Medicine would turn the wood into fence posts at a research farm on Race Street in Urbana.

Brandon Boyd, facilities director with the College of Veterinary Medicine, accepted about 300 beams, each measuring 8 feet long and 6 inches by 6 inches. Boyd estimated the lumber to be valued at \$40,000.

“One of the biggest things we all talk about on campus is sustainability, and we try to preach that,” Boyd said. “A lot of times everybody has a philosophy that it’s easier to build new, less expensive, and takes less time. But it doesn’t get to the heart of sustainability because we need to repurpose and maintain structures on campus.”



# Hall of Fame

**F&S** provides all physical plant, operational, and essential services for sustaining an environment that fosters the research, teaching, and public engagement activities of the university. This includes a wide variety of efforts and services vital to all on campus and in the community. Welcome to our Hall of Fame.



## SERVICE OFFICE

The Service Office processes service requests, outages, and utility locates for the campus. An experienced team of customer relations experts receives more than 190 work requests per day and averages 10 outage requests and 15 locates per day. This also includes critical situations, like problems involving an elevator or gas odor.



<https://go.fs.illinois.edu/ServiceOffice>

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## WASTE TRANSFER STATION

The Waste Transfer Station (WTS) is at the center of campus waste management and recycling activities. The station supports the overall campus goal to reduce the amount of material entering the waste stream.

The WTS operates daily recycling routes in addition to its regular trash routes. The facility features a waste baler, newly installed in 2024, which compresses recyclables to improve management and transportation.



<https://go.fs.illinois.edu/WasteTransfer>

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## STEAM DISTRIBUTION

Steam distribution operators provide quick and efficient problem resolution to trouble calls. Located throughout campus, the steam distribution operators can react and mobilize to locations fast, establishing triage to conduct immediate diagnostic work based on their broad knowledge of infrastructure troubleshooting. These solutions may prove complex, which necessitates an experienced response.



<https://go.fs.illinois.edu/SteamDistribution>

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# F&S MENTORING INTEGRAL TO PRESENT, FUTURE

**“F&S is a leader not just on campus, but in the community. Our relationship with local families and youth are good for our hearts and minds, and being a mentor is just one way F&S team members can look beyond their daily work.”** – Jim Sims, F&S director of Engineering & Construction Services

Two informational lunches were held at F&S at the end of January in support of the CU One-to-One Mentoring program. Participants were treated to a pizza lunch and heard from Champaign mentoring coordinator Lauren Smith about how the program works. Current mentors were also on hand to answer questions. Great stories were shared about the joys of mentoring.

Then in March, mentors and mentees took a tour of PPSB, home to shops like operator-engineers, grounds, machinists, locksmiths, insulators, and mill-workers. The tour took 17 mentors and 17 mentees, allowing Greg Moen, building maintenance & grounds supervisor, the chance to promote crafts and trades as an excellent career opportunity after high school. Sixteen of the 17 mentees were from local middle schools. Supporting pathways for students to establish careers in the skilled trades is critical to growing a diverse workforce that can support the future project and service work needs of the university.

“I think it gives the mentees a chance to see the technical trades and they don’t often get to see that in high school,” said Lauren Smith, CU One-to-One Mentoring program coordinator. “You don’t necessarily need a college degree and you can make a lot of money.”

This tour became another outlet for the local youth to discover not just the university or F&S, but what life and work is like in the crafts and trades. Oftentimes, it is a family member or close family friend who can help lead the next generation to discover the pathway towards working in the trades. Mentoring opportunities are so valuable at F&S, the organization allows team members to charge an hour of their work to this effort, letting them take a lunch with their mentor once per week.

CU One-to-One performs recruiting visits at F&S, and Smith values the organization’s participation.

***“F&S has provided wonderful mentors,” Smith said. “They’ve stayed with the program, and a lot of [them] have followed all the way through high school and then started over again.”***

If you’re interested in mentoring a local student, learn more at <https://www.cu1to1.org>. You can also contact Lauren Smith at [smithla@u4sd.org](mailto:smithla@u4sd.org), 217-351-3722.





# HEALTH AT F&S...FOR F&S



**For most at F&S, their boots are made for workin'. But others may keep another pair of shoes to get to walkin' and bikin'... for their own health.**

## Okanagan Charter

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign recently signed a commitment to being named a "Health Promoting University," which is guided by the "Okanagan Charter Framework," meant to encourage a health-conscious campus culture.

As the largest administrative unit on campus, in terms of number of team members, F&S is a key figure in emphasizing and improving health at work. The charter aims to embed health and wellness into all aspects of campus life and work.

"We will lead health promotion, action and collaboration locally and globally—for the wellbeing of our people, place and planet," says the Mental Health & Wellness page.



**Check out more here.**

**or Go To:**  
<https://go.fs.illinois.edu/Wellness>

## F&S Bikes

F&S has invested in the health and wellness of its own team members in another, more tangible way, too.

Two bicycles are available to ride for official university purposes. So, in order to make that meeting across campus, team members can use a bike, accompanied with a helmet and a bike lock.

This opportunity has been made available through the Capital Programs and Engineering Services divisions.

"Biking isn't just for students, but our staff as well, so it only makes sense to make some available to our team members," said Sarthak Prasad. "Oftentimes, it's a more efficient way to get around in densely populated parts of campus, or especially for those that bike regularly and appreciate the fresh air and sunshine."

## Walk the Line

F&S continues to prioritize the health and well-being of team members in 2025. Now, F&S is excited to announce another new initiative: a *Wellness Walking Trail in the West Hallway*.

There's no need to go to the walking track when there is a trackable way to get in steps at PPSB. Arrows will be visible to point out the routes. For example, five laps of the West Hallway (including the spur by the locksmiths) is the equivalent of walking one mile. For those who want to shake up their path, there's the west hallway and the transportation bay walkway for a total of 1.2 miles.

Signage will be added to explain the routes and offer fitness-walking tips. Taking a turn on the walking trail has the added benefit of not being weather dependent. Team members are encouraged to try at least one loop on a break, or participate in a walking meeting when conferring with a colleague. These small actions can have a large impact.

**F&S is**  
*Committed to be Fit!*





# BE SMART, STAY SAFE

F&S is a co-lead on a new campaign that promotes safety for all forms of work across campus, including that which takes place in laboratories, construction sites, and anywhere else where students, faculty, and staff interact with the world around them.

F&S collaborated with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation (OVCRI) and the Division of Research Safety (DRS) on a new initiative emphasizing that a “Safe Campus is a Great Campus.” The campaign rolled out at the beginning of February, with a website available here:



or Go To:  
<https://besafe.illinois.edu>

The origin of this campaign goes back several years and is meant to address open questions from faculty and staff about who they should contact for certain safety support, for example regarding machine guarding in a lab. Would that scenario require assistance from DRS or F&S?

“A key point of this campaign is that by design it is a major shift from the technical nature of the information presently available on campus websites,” said Jeremy Neighbors, director of Safety & Compliance at F&S. “This campaign is culture-driven, not compliance-based.”

Part of the campaign is simply exposing what kinds of work on campus relate to campus safety through photography—on the Be Safe website, there are dozens of photos taken in labs and around other equipment, including Brenda Houy, who is responsible for the Fire Extinguisher Inspection and Maintenance Program. Rope access team members Shane Carr, roofers foreperson, and Patrick Wood, Building Maintenance & Grounds embedded safety professional, were captured during SPRAT training (Society of Professional Rope Access Technicians) and tree arborist rescue operations.



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN  
 Division of Research Safety | Division of Safety & Compliance | Contact

**Be smart, stay safe!**

Safety pledge | Share your story | Photo gallery | Contact

**A safe campus is a great campus.**

Safety is key to our campus being a world-class place to learn, research, and work. Whether you're in a science lab or wood shop - or just walking to class - we all play a part.

Learn more about safety basics and how YOU can help, below!

Check out the new  
**Safety Store!**



# ILLINOIS CHIEF ENGINEERS & FACILITY MANAGERS CONFERENCE



The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is a world-leader in teaching, collaboration, research and workforce development—and a conference held in town has helped Illinois and others within the state who perform similar work to those at F&S.

The Illinois Chief Engineers & Facility Managers Conference was a two-day gathering held in March, meant to spur discussion and find solutions to common issues at all state, and regional, universities, among those who care for and maintain the material world.

As the largest university in the state, Illinois has taken a leadership role, hosting the event and offering speaking opportunities for F&S leaders to detail offerings and opportunities that can be accomplished at smaller schools with fewer employees.

Jeff Angiel, F&S associate vice chancellor & executive director, opened the conference with his keynote speech, bringing up his impressions of campus customers and F&S' abilities to serve. He noted the size and scale of the entire energy 'enterprise,' shining a light on last year's honor as System of the Year from IDEA (International District Energy Association). Abbott Power Plant is central to much of why campus energy and utility use is so special, as it is a co-generation plant, meaning it produces both electricity and steam. Solar Farms add to the electric grid, and UES also purchases supplemental power from the regional supplier, Ameren. The efficiency of Abbott's production allows the university to avoid

higher costs and national grid uncertainty. Angiel noted he is looking forward to a possible micro-nuclear reactor and third solar farm as added options for energy generation.

Angiel also noted that some challenges, such as cost and speed, are just as relevant for large operators like Illinois as they are for a family wanting to update their home mechanical systems. Deferred maintenance, or the associated cost with not updating systems and buildings on time, is also growing, ballooning above \$1 billion. After the COVID-19 pandemic, construction and utility costs increased, too. And, as a state university, there are laws, codes, and layers of governance Illinois must hit before a project can start.

Other topics ranged from energy conservation to automation, construction, and chilled water systems. Attendees came from University of Illinois Chicago, Illinois State University, Washington University, and local school districts. More than 100 people registered for the conference.



Check out more here.

or Go To:  
<https://publish.illinois.edu/chiefengineers>





# SHOP SPOTLIGHT



## THE “KEY” PLAYERS BEHIND CAMPUS SUCCESS AND SECURITY

By Jalyynn Bugaj, Customer Relations & Communications Intern

When it comes to keeping doors and locks in check, F&S locksmiths have the key to success, making sure everything, from squeaky hinges to secure entry systems, is working smoothly!

On campus, the Locksmith shop makes new keys or copies, replaces locks and door hardware, changes or repairs combination locks, repairs general locks, door closers, and door hardware, and works with departments to create master key systems.

Allison Payne, manager of technology support and training at the Gies College of Business, claimed that the middle, west-facing Sixth St. entrance doors of Wohlers Hall, where she works, had been extremely loud and squeaky.

“Any time class was in session in 152 Wohlers and the auditorium directly across from the entrance, the noise from those doors was bound to be disruptive,” Payne said. “It was a very loud, echoing, grating squeal.”

Greg Granadino, locksmith foreperson, explained that the shop was called out to address issues with the doors not closing properly and squeaking.

“It’s a simple repair. We lubricate the door hinges with specialized lubricants,” said Granadino. He explained that they also check all other parts of the locks to ensure they are working correctly.

The Locksmith shop also works with electronic and smart lock systems, in addition to traditional locks. These locks

provide departments with an information trail of who’s entering the building or specific rooms. These locks can also be scheduled to automatically open and lock based on needs.

Recently, the Irwin Indoor Football Facility, along with the Ubben Basketball Complex, had biometric systems installed. So, in order to enter, you must have fingerprint credentials.

**The Locksmith shop’s dedication to maintaining and securing doors across campus plays a crucial role in ensuring the safety, functionality, and convenience of the university’s facilities, providing essential services that keep everything running smoothly for students, faculty, and staff.**



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