Spring is here. Renewal and change are in the air, and APPA has new opportunities for our membership on the horizon. I am passionate about the opportunity before us. Three days focused on the future of our profession and institutions is a fitting follow-up to last summer’s Campus of the Future (COTF), which was a splendid blend of three professional giants (APPA, NACUBO, and SCUP) in Hawaii.

Utilizing survey instruments and lessons learned from COTF, a dedicated team of your colleagues has crafted a new opportunity for our membership to gather and recharge this summer at APPA 2007: Back to the Future, in Baltimore, Maryland, July 15-17.

New Strategic Focus
APPA 2007 will feature best-of-breed speakers who will infuse our minds with creative and innovative thoughts about the future solutions to our most pressing issues in three key areas: energy strategies with a sustainability focus, workforce demographics, and emerging technologies. The enhanced framework will consist of a daily opening plenary and general session, followed by panel sessions and breakout sessions designed to provide practical tools and technologies to use on current and future projects on your campus.

Day One
APPA 2007 will begin with our opening keynote speaker, John Glenn. The former senator and astronaut will speak to us on the Importance of Leaving the World a Better Place for Future Generations. The establishment of green campuses has become a high priority for all of us. David Orr of Oberlin College has been invited to lead a plenary on Sustainability and Energy Strategies in Totally Green Buildings. The session will be followed by panel sessions on Oil, Gas, Nuclear, and Coal as Energy Sources; the Business Case for Sustainable Practices; Institutional Collaboration for Sustainable Practices; and Organizations for a Sustainable Future.

Sunday’s breakout sessions will feature speakers on the Student Sustainability Movement, Business Continuity, and Energy Audits.

Day Two
Significant challenges that will impact the future of our field include understanding, motivating, and collaborating with Generation X (Gen X) and the Millennial generations. Noted speaker Morris Massey, has been invited to present the Monday plenary. Author of What You Are is Where You Were When, What You Are Is What You Choose…So Don’t Screw It Up, and numerous other books, articles, videos, and CDs, Massey will challenge us to address the issues of workforce demographics in our organizations.

Later that morning, panel sessions on Now to 2015—What Kind of Leaders Are We Fostering?, Intergenerational Values, Succession Planning, and an additional session by Massey will give us multiple perspectives on this important issue. The afternoon will bring us practical work sessions on Intergenerational Conflict Resolution, Diversity in Workforce Cultures, Recruiting Practices for Gen X and Millennials, and Modernizing our Workforce.

Day Three
The father of artificial intelligence, Ray Kurzweil has been invited to present the plenary session. Author of numerous books and scholarly journals including The Age of Intelligent Machines, The Age of Spiritual Machines, Fantastic Voyage: Live
The session Tuesday afternoon will give us opportunities for professional development. Topics to be covered include: Change; a summation of the APPA Thought Leaders Summit; CFAR projects; a report on the “nuggets” gathered from the new Senior Facility Officers (SFO) Summit conducted prior to APPA 2007; a report on the 21st Century Project by Association of College and University Housing Officers-International (ACUHO-I); a session on Presentation Skills for Executives; Regulatory and Legal Updates for the Facility Profession; and Legislating Stewardship by Rod Rose.

Google Chairman of the Executive Committee and CEO Dr. Eric Schmidt has been invited to present the closing plenary. Schmidt will use his 20-year record of achievement as an Internet strategist, entrepreneur and developer of great technologies to highlight best practices for the future.

**Additional Focus Areas**

This year, the popular Supervisor’s Toolkit will be offered concurrently to APPA 2007. Specifically designed to meet the needs of the facilities management professional, the Toolkit is a structured, open-ended, and pragmatic approach designed to help supervisors realize both personal and professional growth. You can either attend the Toolkit as a participant or begin the first-step to become a Qualified Toolkit Trainer. Toolkit topics include:

- Supervision, What Is It
- It’s More Than Administrivia
- Communication, Let’s Talk!
- If It Weren’t for the People
- Motivation and Performance
- Customer Service Triangle
- Supervisors as Leaders
- Success, What Does It Take?

There will also be an offering of the APPA Educational Facilities Professional (EFP) credentialing preparatory course. The EFP credentialing program will recognize those up-and-coming professionals who have achieved a fundamental level of mastery in the field. How appropriate and exciting that the first preparatory course for the EFP credentialing will be Wednesday (July 18) immediately following APPA 2007. The EFP will be a universal
professional standard, officially recognizing the unique and substantial body of knowledge that exists in the educational facilities profession.

Conference Highlights

- **Welcome Party:** Hosted by Johnson Control will kick off what will prove to be an outstanding three days. Meet up with old friends and meet new colleagues.
- **Awards Reception:** This is a time when APPA recognizes the outstanding achievements of institutions, individuals, and organizations across our membership. Sunday evening we will honor our Business Partners for their annual support including recognition of our prestigious Strategic Business Partner recipients; acknowledge those individuals completing research for the Center for Facilities Research; celebrate with those who receive the Pacesetter, Effective & Innovative Practices, and Rex Dillow awards; and present the prestigious President's Awards.
- **Lab of the Future:** Back by popular demand is our interactive laboratory of the future, strategically located within the Hall of Resources. This lab will take you through the technology applications of today and well into innovations believed to be on the future horizon.
- **Run/Walk:** Join us on early Monday morning for the annual APPA Fun Run/Walk as we celebrate the 10-year anniversary of TMA's sponsorship and partnership of this 5K event.
- **Awards Banquet:** Celebrate with us Monday evening as we congratulate President Chris Ahoy on an outstanding year of service to APPA and witness the changing of the guard. We will also bestow the honor of APPA's highest awards of Meritorious Service and Awards for Excellence during the festivities.
- **Hall of Resources:** The conference will feature the largest gathering of educational facilities professionals in the country. APPA's Strategic Business Partners, Business Partners and new exhibitors will bring top-notch information about the tools you need to operate an effective and efficient campus.
- **APPA Bookstore:** Located onsite at APPA 2007, you will have the opportunity to purchase the latest publications in the field facilities management and much more. Special conference pricing will be available to all with an extra 10 percent discount given to all first time attendees. Stop in between sessions so you don't miss out on the latest releases including, **Buildings…the Gifts That Keep on Taking** by Rodney Rose and **Leadership in Educational Facilities Administration** by APPA President Chris Ahoy.

We look forward to this opportunity and hope to see each and every member July 15-17 in Baltimore. Join us at APPA 2007 and take advantage of the opportunity to launch yourselves Back to the Future and gain the essential tools to bolster our skills and prepare your institution for the next generation of facility management practices.

Looking for more details and the registration form for APPA 2007?

See the Preliminary Program at the center of the magazine or visit www.appa.org/education/appa2007/main.cfm.