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About APPA

APPA promotes leadership in educational facilities for professionals seeking to build their careers, transform their institutions, and elevate the value and recognition of facilities in education. APPA provides members the opportunity to explore trends, issues, and best practices in educational facilities through research, publications, professional development, and credentialing. Formerly the Association of Physical Plant Administrators, APPA is the association of choice for 5,200 educational facilities professionals at more than 1,500 learning institutions throughout the United States, Canada, and abroad. For more information, visit us at www.appa.org.

In this issue you will find a wealth of information on the topic of Building Information Modeling, or BIM. Three features and two columns address this expanding planning and design concept, with particular focus on how BIM may affect the educational facilities enterprise.

A number of U.S. federal agencies, associations, and leaders in the business community have come together under the auspices of the National Institute for Building Sciences (NIBS) to develop BIM guidelines and standards, as well as to share best practices. And for anyone working in the planning, design, and construction world, the Whole Building Design Guide (www.wbdg.org) should be a regular resource on all aspects of building-related guidance, criteria, and technology. Many thanks to Deke Smith of NIBS, and Bill Brodt of NASA, for their dedicated work on BIM standards and the Whole Building Design Guide.

APPA's Code Advocacy Task Force continues to work aggressively in monitoring the important code and compliance issues affecting educational facilities and sharing their findings, opinions, and recommendations to the APPA membership through APPA's website and the Code Talkers column. In this issue, David Handwork discusses the enforcement of ASHRAE Standard 90.1.

You'll also find in this issue several articles by APPA's leadership. President Bill Elvey writes a book review on one of Stephen R. Covey's books, in advance of Covey's keynote presentation at APPA 2009: Focusing on the Critical Few. The conference takes place July 8-10 in Vancouver, British Columbia.

Bill also cowrote the Knowledge Builders column with Past APPA President Maggie Kinnaman. Their topic is the result of a survey conducted by APPA and Educational and Institutional Cooperative Purchasing, and the pending next steps in providing sample contracts for a number of key facilities functions.

In addition, APPA President-Elect

Polly Pinney writes about her participation in a recent Women's Leadership Institute, and the valuable networking and learning opportunity the event provided to several APPA members.

Finally, the Membership Matters column is an especially interesting one, written by Dan Whitezell, a longtime business partner member of APPA. Dan is vice president of marketing and sales for Spirotherm, Inc., and he currently serves as an At-Large member of the APPA Board of Directors.

In the article, Dan shares his experience as an APPA business partner member over the years, and the progression of APPA in its understanding and inclusion of business partners into the association. APPA has worked hard to elevate the educational facilities professional, but we've also worked hard to enhance the value and visibility of our business partner members and to view them as important resources for our practitioners working at our colleges, universities, K-12 schools and districts, museums, and other educational institutions.

This provides me the opportunity to thank all of our APPA business partner members, conference exhibitors, project sponsors, and magazine and newsletter advertisers for your continued support of APPA and the educational facilities profession. We look forward to many more years of collaboration. ☺

Coming in July/August 2009

- APPA 2009: Focusing on the Critical Few
- Features from Keynoters Covey, Abrashoff, and the Heath Brothers
- Using the Lean Approach