



Book Review Editor: Theodore J. Weidner, Ph.D., P.E., CEFM, AIA

APPA is not just an organization helping us make personal

connections—it's an organization that leverages the knowledge of others to achieve individual, institutional, and societal goals. This issue looks at two publications by APPA that demonstrate the value of the organization and the network of FM officers.

CRITICAL ISSUES IN FACILITIES MANAGEMENT: ENERGY EFFICIENCIES

by Steve Glazner, editor, APPA, Alexandria, VA, 2014, 66 pp., \$30 (member), \$45 (nonmember), softcover.

The “sleeping giant” in facilities is energy. My experience in educational facilities has shown me that regardless of the other budgetary problems within the institution, the utility bill will always get paid. That's an extreme word, “always.” But it's true. Buildings can fall into disrepair, academic programs can be trimmed, positions will (inevitably) be lost, but the utility bill will always get paid. As such, this area can be a gold mine for the facility manager.

Energy Efficiencies provides 15 examples and approaches to reducing utility costs for electricity, natural gas, oil, coal, and water. The major theme throughout the examples is the need for data about energy consumption and the importance looking at it from a different perspective. There are dozens of opportunities in every building and at every campus to reduce energy consumption and save money. The challenge is often convincing others why one expenditure is better than another.

No one-size-fits-all solution exists, despite what salesmen may want you to believe. However, I can identify a universally applicable (but widely disliked) solution that is guaranteed to save energy: stop using more energy by constructing new facilities. Just eliminate lots of (big) buildings from campus and



I'll guarantee utility costs will go down. Good luck with that solution; you're sure to upset at least one very influential person.

The contributors to *Energy Efficiencies* don't espouse a “silver bullet” for ener-

gy efficiency. Instead, each contributor describes a situation and an opportunity that arose after the problem was clearly defined. Each contribution demonstrates that each successful project was a success because time was spent to search out the issues in order to discuss them broadly within the organization and/or on campus, reach agreement on the problem, provide a solution, and then focus on completing the solution. It's not about the technical capabilities of the people on campus, it's about their ability to work with others (consultants, constituents, customers, and the data) to find successful solutions.

Energy Efficiencies is a good source for examples of successful projects and improved ways of looking at inevitable expenses. The creative facility manager, who can demonstrate the value of integrated thinking about facility renewal with energy cost reductions, will develop ways to serve the campus better. This book is a needed reference for every FM library.

CRITICAL ISSUES IN FACILITIES MANAGEMENT: ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Steve Glazner, editor, APPA, Alexandria, VA, 2014, 86 pp. \$30 (member), \$45 (nonmember), softcover.

Facility officers have been all about sustainability for years, beginning before the publication of *The Decaying American Campus* in 1989. But that book focused on taking care of capital assets only and not on the broader areas of environment and society, even though good maintenance of the physical campus contributes to

the other areas as well as the economy. Regardless of that perspective, the 14 chapters in *Environmental Sustainability* comprise yet another excellent resource for facility officers.

Environmental Sustainability demonstrates the importance of integrated thinking and working in order to achieve success. That integration is achieved by listening to the campus community and others, working first to get broad understanding of the issues and consensus of solutions, openness of data and documentation about where the institution is and how it is doing, and maintenance of interest in the program and data.

Environmental Sustainability makes it clear that while top-level commitment is needed to implement sustainability initiatives and succeed, it is also essen-

tial to obtain a grassroots commitment from the entire campus community to develop and continue the success; facility managers cannot achieve sustainability alone.

This volume highlights specific APPA programs. The Energy and Sustainability Assessment Tool (ESAT) and the Sustainability Awards are described in two chapters. These chapters and others demonstrate the importance of data and analytical tools to look at the data from different perspectives and leverage that data into information, knowledge, and wisdom. Similar information is required when using other available tools such as the Green Globes CIEB (Continual Improvement of Existing Building) system, which also recognizes APPA's CEFPP credential or LEED-EB's recognition of APPA's *Custodial Staffing Guidelines*.

There are a couple of highly detailed presentations demonstrating the affordability of sustainable initiatives. While these initiatives may not work in one setting, they clearly demonstrate the importance of integrated thinking to become sustainable. In short, *Environmental Sustainability* provides many examples of successful initiatives that will help facility officers in performing their increasingly critical role. ⑤

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Effective and Innovative Practices for the Strategic Facilities Manager

Edited by Jeri Ripley King

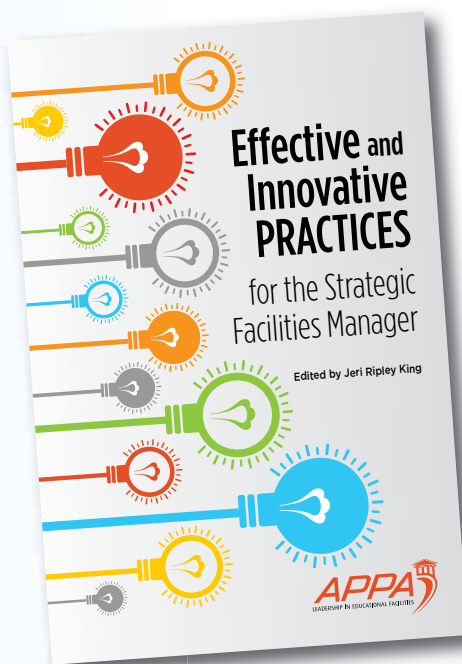
This book offers a sampling of tested-in-the-field practices and frameworks that can help educational facilities managers meet the challenges of today, as well as those in the foreseeable future.

Ever-tightening resources and pressures to work more efficiently and effectively call for a skill set that is able to assess the environment, advance new initiatives that are aligned with institutional goals, and help organizations behave more proactively. Those who can do that, and are able to communicate effectively with their constituencies, are more apt to thrive and help their organizations do the same.

The 16 chapters focus on such topics as:

- Strategies
- Customer expectations
- Assessment
- Information technology
- Prioritizing and decision making
- Leadership in the future

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