2013-14 Physical Plant Overview

The 2013-14 fiscal year was another busy year for the Physical Plant Department. A significant number of large and small projects were accomplished along with a busy schedule of activities.

- In July, we dedicated the Davis Science Center, the fourth and final building envisioned on Colby Green during the Master Planning process over a decade ago.

- With the Presidential transition, there was an opportunity to provide some needed upgrades to the President’s House including installation of an accessible main entrance, an ADA compliant first floor restroom, air conditioning, and a new gas-fired heating system.

- The second phase of Miller Library renovations was completed this summer providing a more inviting entrance sequence and a restored historic reading room. Conversations around volumes of books in the library and in storage will continue.

- The first phase of renovations in Mudd was completed as other academic programs made use of the space vacated by Mathematics and Statistics when they moved to the Davis Science Center. Additional work is expected next summer.

- The rehabilitation of the Bill Alfond Field was completed, providing a high quality AstroTurf field for athletes and increasing spectator experience.

- The renovation of Roberts Union began this summer. When complete, the upper floors and part of the first floor of the building will become student housing providing approximately 80 additional beds on campus. These beds will help with some of the housing shortfalls and offset the beds lost when Grossman is renovated next year.

- The extended bitter cold last winter caused several freeze ups on campus in January including in Alfond Senior Apartments, Foss Dining, and Diamond building. The quick response of PPD crews minimized damage so that the impact on students was reduced.

- During the summer and early fall, Summit Natural Gas extended Natural Gas to campus.
The conversion of the heating plant is underway and, by the end of October, natural gas should be on line as the secondary fuel source in the heating plant.

During FY14, including an extremely cold winter, the Biomass Plant produced more than 105 million pounds of steam, representing nearly 80 percent of total steam produced. Approximately 920,000 gallons of fuel oil were avoided by the use of biomass.

From a sustainability perspective, two more projects attained LEED certification. Piper and Drummond renovations both achieved LEED Gold bringing our total to 11 LEED certified buildings on campus, more than any other institution in Maine or in NESCAC. We expect the Davis Science Center, Miller Library renovations, and Roberts renovations to also be LEED certified. The long standing practice of all PPD project managers being LEED Accredited Professionals has helped in continuing this important effort.

Operationally, the PPD crew had another successful year supporting the students, faculty and staff. We processed in excess of 30,000 work orders, supported a busy summer programs schedule, and participated in many special events including the successful Inauguration Celebration for President Greene.

PPD ended the year with operational expenditures approximately 1 percent under budget.