



February 2025

WELCOME

GREETINGS FROM STEVE MAIORISI

Welcome to the Winter newsletter! As we usher in another season full of developments and milestones, I'm excited to share the latest updates and highlights from across our department.

Our Facilities and Planning, Design, and Construction (PDC) teams have been diligently working on projects designed to enhance our campus spaces. In this issue, we'll showcase recent accomplishments and offer a glimpse of future plans. Notably, PDC is preparing to handover the keys to Campus Services for the newly completed Gordon Hall Flex Space, which is set to become a dynamic hub for ten administrative departments within HMS.

Meanwhile, our Facilities team has successfully overhauled the cooling systems for the Mass Spectrometers in Seeley G. Mudd, ensuring more stable temperature control year-round, even during unpredictable weather.

This edition will introduce new staff members and bid farewell to esteemed colleagues who are retiring after years of dedicated service. We'll also highlight staff benefits and upcoming events that we hope you'll take full advantage of.

It was wonderful to connect with so many of you at the CP&F Breakfast in December, and I look forward to seeing you at one of our many upcoming departmental events. Be sure to check your email for invites.

As always, I encourage you to share any questions, suggestions, or ideas for newsletter topics or quarterly meetings. Your feedback is invaluable as we continue to grow and strengthen our team.

Stephen M. Maiorisi
Chief Campus Planning and Facilities Officer

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Cutting the Ribbon: *The Push to Occupancy*

The long-anticipated Gordon Hall Flex Space is officially scheduled to open its doors this March. Marking the successful culmination of a multiyear, staff-driven initiative, this innovative flex space is designed to meet the evolving needs of teams and individuals.

Over the past several weeks, the design build team has been working through a series of complex inspections to secure the official Certificate of Occupancy. The new smoke evacuation system, which required a unique certification process, ensures an evacuation system within the 3-story atrium specific to the dimensions of the space. The team has successfully completed all but one of the inspections required to fully occupy and open the Gordon Hall Flex Space. The final certification is expected mid-February.

The Flex Space will be home to 10 departments who are already making plans to integrate it into their collaborative work routines. The space will serve over 450 staff members from the Armenise-Harvard Foundation, Institutional Planning & Effectiveness, Information Technology (Research Computing), Alumni Affairs & Development, Communication and External Relations, Office of External Education, Office of Finance, Research Administration, Research Initiatives and Global Programs, and Office of the Executive Dean of Administration. The Community Manager, Lucas Braun, will be available to help staff navigate the options and choose the ideal space for their needs.

"As Community Manager, I'll take a hands-on, approachable role, ensuring all users feel supported and valued. I'm excited to create a space where collaboration and connection flourish, and I'll be a resource by actively listening, problem-solving, and fostering a positive, inclusive environment for everyone." – Lucas Braun, Gordon Hall Flex Space Community Manager

Offering flexibility while promoting collaboration, this dynamic space will provide 117 workstations and focus rooms – most equipped with 34" curved monitors that utilize power over USB which reduces the need for additional wiring and power adapters – ensuring staff now have access to a variety of spaces that suit both solo work and team projects.

A standout feature of the re-envisioned space is the concept of work "neighborhoods." These more private collaborative areas contain a mix of open workstations and private focus rooms, offering a balance between team-orientated group spaces and quiet, individual spaces. Meeting rooms are available by placing a reservation online within the EMS Web App or with the assistance of the Gordon Hall Flex Space Community Manager.

Through purposeful design and flexible offerings, we create an adaptable environment that seamlessly bridges remote and in-person experiences, promoting both individual and shared goals. By cultivating cross-departmental collaboration and a strong sense of belonging, we redefine what it means to work together in a modern, supportive, and dynamic setting. With the Gordon Hall Flex Space opening expected in March, it's clear that flexibility, collaboration, and individual focus are at the forefront of this exciting new initiative.



Gordon Hall Flex Space Atrium

117 workstations
and focus rooms

450 staff served

Facilities Updates

Keeping Cool Upgrades to SGM 608 for Year-Round Stability



Mass Spectrometers

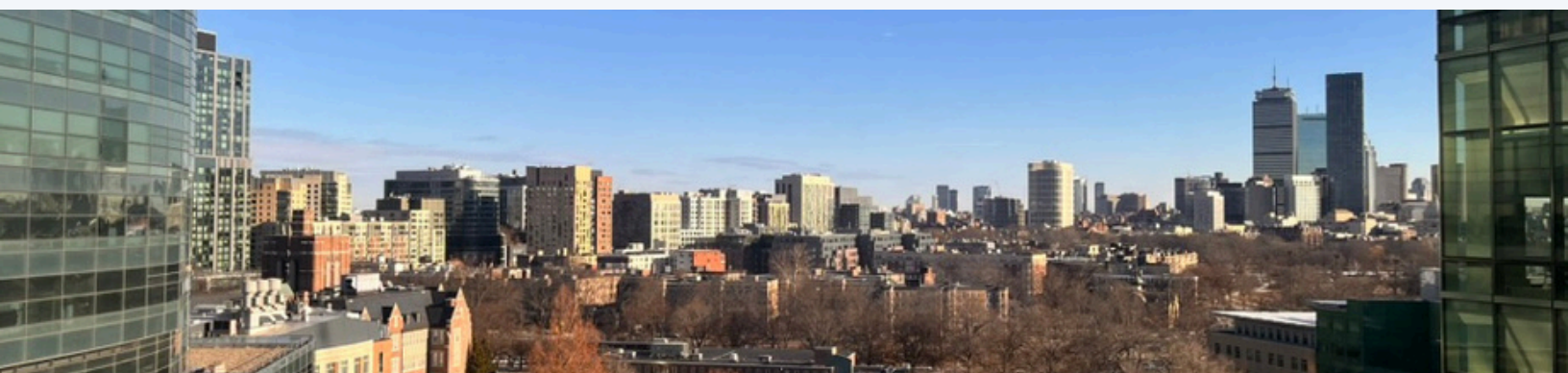


SGM 608 (Seeley G. Mudd) houses multiple Mass Spectrometers and other sensitive equipment used by BCMP and ICCB-L, all of which require cooler-than-average temperatures and low humidity levels. In the past, this room has faced challenges because it is solely fed by air handler 009 (AHU-009), which requires the chilled water to be shut off during the winter to prevent the coils from freezing in cold temperatures.

While the room is equipped with a fan coil to help temper, recirculate, or dehumidify the air, cooling is often turned off after the first frost. However, unseasonably warm days in the fall or early spring create a need for cooled air, which is unavailable once the system is offline.

To address this, HMS Facilities partnered with Entensiv and JM Electrical to add heat trace cabling to both the chilled water and steam coils for AHU-009. This upgrade ensures that SGM 608 will continue to receive cooling during warm spells in the fall and early spring, while also protecting the coils from freezing during extreme winter temperatures.

This improvement will directly benefit the occupants of SGM 608 and their research, while also safeguarding the building from potential equipment failures and emergencies. The collaborative efforts of our Facilities Team and vendors made this vital project possible.



Welcoming Our Newest Team Members to Campus Facilities and Planning!

We're excited to introduce the newest members of our Campus Facilities and Planning team! Their skills, expertise, and fresh perspectives will help us continue to create and maintain an exceptional campus environment. Please join us in giving them a warm welcome!

Lucas Braun joined CP&F under Campus Services as the **Gordon Hall Flex Space Community Manager** on January 6th. Lucas brings over a decade of experience in hospitality, customer service, and operations. He holds a Master's in Geographic Information Technology from Northeastern and a Hotel Revenue Management certificate from Cornell. Originally from outside Boston, Lucas and his wife lived in Chile for two years and frequently visit family there. He enjoys soccer, tennis, skiing, music, movies, and spending time with loved ones.

Lucas can be reached at Lucas_Braun@hms.harvard.edu



Lucas Braun
Gordon Hall Flex
Space Community
Manager

Jess Galatro
Senior Project
Manager



Jess Galatro joined CP&F as a **Senior Project Manager** on December 2nd. With 25 years of project management experience, Jess has successfully led complex academic projects in occupied spaces from planning through construction closeout. Most recently, she worked at Brown University, where she managed the Integrated Life Sciences Building, a 300,000 GSF research facility, overseeing all aspects of the project, from design to construction documents. Jess holds a Bachelor's in Political Science and a Master's in Construction Management. She will focus primarily on Capital Lab and Academic projects.

Jess can be reached at jess_galatro@hms.harvard.edu

Amanda Moore joined CP&F as an **Administrative Coordinator** on December 2nd. With 11 years of experience in operations, communications, and event management at institutions like American International College, UMass Amherst, and Mount Holyoke College, Amanda brings a wealth of expertise. She will provide administrative support, manage communications, assist with key department initiatives such as the CP&F newsletter, and coordinate meetings and events.

Amanda can be reached at amanda_moore2@hms.harvard.edu

Amanda Moore
Administrative
Coordinator





Katie Taylor
Senior Campus
Planner

Katie Taylor joined CP&F as a **Senior Campus Planner** on January 6th. Katie brings over eight years of experience as a technical designer and senior space planner, most recently at Draper Laboratories. There, she led space planning for a national portfolio of workplace, laboratory, and classified spaces, overseeing strategic planning for laboratory expansions, interior renovations, and facility planning. Katie holds both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Architecture. At HMS, she will oversee campus planning functions, including capital and expense project planning, space planning, and feasibility assessments.

Katie can be reached at
Katherine_Taylor@hms.harvard.edu

A special shoutout to Katie's sweet son, who started daycare with a big smile, helping to support his mom on her first day at HMS.

Departures

It is with mixed emotions that we share the news of **Daniel Callahan's** retirement effective Friday, February 21, 2025.

Dan's departure is truly bittersweet for all of us, and especially within the Planning, Design, and Construction team. Over the past **30+ years**, Dan has been a highly respected staple of the HMS community. During his time as a general construction superintendent with Wescor LTD, to his 7 year career as an HMS Construction Manager, Dan has played a key role in delivering countless projects with the highest standards of excellence. His unwavering dedication to achieving the best possible outcomes, his focus on customer satisfaction, and his solution-oriented approach have made him a trusted and invaluable asset to our team.

As we prepare for Dan's well-deserved retirement, we will work closely over the coming weeks to ensure a smooth transition and the reassignment of his project responsibilities. Our goal is to make this as seamless as possible for everyone involved. We will also be planning a retirement celebration later this spring for Dan and will share those details once they are confirmed.

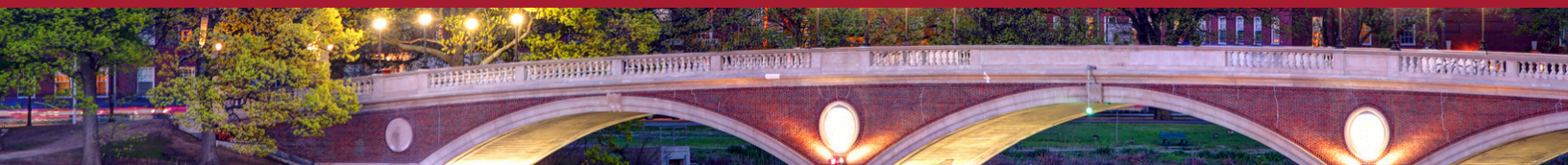
Join us in expressing our sincere gratitude for everything Dan has done for HMS. We offer our heartfelt best wishes to him and his family as he steps into this new chapter. It has truly been a pleasure having Dan be such a valuable member of CP&F, he will be a greatly missed colleague.

With gratitude and appreciation, we announce the retirement of **Jose Maldonado**, effective February 13.

Jose served as a Team Lead in Mail & Receiving for Campus Services at the time of his retirement. He recently celebrated an incredible **40 years** of service with HMS. Jose has been a valued member of our team, consistently demonstrating professionalism, dedication, and commitment throughout his years of service. Jose shared, he truly enjoyed working with co-workers, meeting new people and the daily challenge of his work. His passion for making others happy was always evident, as he shared *"making other people happy, makes me happy."* Devonne Countryman-Monteiro, Jose's manager echoed this sentiment sharing "Jose led by example and showed tremendous pride in the results that he produced. Ensuring the happiness of others was a daily goal."

Jose has made a significant impact on the success of our operations and the development of those around him. It was clear how much of himself he invested in his work and his team. His contributions will be deeply missed, and his legacy will undoubtedly continue to inspire all who have had the opportunity to work alongside him. Reflecting on his work, Jose said, "at the end of the day, I met my goal, the day is over, everything is fine."

Please join us in congratulating Jose on his well-deserved retirement and thanking him for his years of hard work and commitment. We wish him all the best in his next chapter and look forward to celebrating his remarkable career together. We are grateful to Jose for everything he's done – he will always be a valued member of our team.



Staff Spotlight

Jerico Johnston MANAGER FACILITIES OPERATIONS PLANNING



At CP&F, we believe that our success is driven by the incredible people behind our work.

We're excited to shine a spotlight on Jerico Johnston, Manager of Facilities Operations Planning. Jerico's commitment to both the success of our department and the well-being of his team has made him an integral part of CP&F. Jerico is helping to shape the future of the Facilities Department with his passion for team building and commitment to growth. Let's take a closer look at the impact he's making and the person behind the role.

As Manager of Facilities Operations Planning, Jerico plays a key role in overseeing many important processes and workflows within the Facilities Department. In his role, Jerico, who was promoted to this position in December 2024, feels lucky to have inherited a team that values collaboration and excellence.

"I'm fortunate to work for a leadership team with a vision for the future that I align with. I'm invested in the success of that vision, and I was looking for ever increasing ways to contribute."

"When my current role, Manager – Facilities Operations Planning, became available I knew that it was a good opportunity for me. It focuses on work I truly enjoy and has a significant impact on our vision." Jerico shares.

One of the most rewarding aspects of his role is the opportunity to be exposed to so many different processes. Jerico takes special consideration to share the new knowledge he has gained with his team. It goes a long way to foster collaboration and empathy and is a perfect demonstration of Jerico's commitment to the department and its growth. He feels that greater understanding of internal workflows creates space for the team to take on growing responsibilities in turn creating a positive work environment where team members feel valued.

When he's not leading the Facilities team, Jerico is at home helping his 16-year-old son gain some independence behind the wheel. He also makes time for his favorite hobbies, including reading sci-fi and fantasy books, and enjoying tabletop role-playing games and board games.

We're grateful for Jerico's leadership, passion, and commitment to building a strong and successful team. His contributions continue to make a lasting impact, and we can't wait to see what he does next!

Career Corner

CP&F Colleague Recognition Program

Our team's success wouldn't be possible without the hard work, dedication, and collaboration of each one of you. Every day, you contribute to making CP&F a supportive, innovative, and inspiring place to work—and we believe that deserves to be celebrated!

We're thrilled to announce the return of the Colleague Recognition Program, designed to shine a spotlight on the amazing contributions and teamwork that make CP&F—and the larger HMS community—so special.

What is the Colleague Recognition Program?

This program is our way of recognizing and celebrating the outstanding efforts of Harvard-employed colleagues within CP&F, across all roles and departments. It's about appreciating those who go the extra mile, lead by example, and go above and beyond to make a positive impact on the workplace.

How It Works:

Who can nominate? Any Harvard CP&F employee!

How to nominate? Use the **NOMINATION FORM** to recognize a colleague who has made a difference.

Recognition Process:

Nominations will be reviewed every two weeks, and recipients will receive a token of appreciation—like movie tickets, RA dining vouchers, or COOP merchandise—as a thank-you for their contributions.

This is a great opportunity to highlight the values that make CP&F an amazing team and show your gratitude for the people who make it all happen.

If you have questions or need more information, feel free to email us at cpf@hms.harvard.edu.

Thank you for everything you do to make CP&F such a fantastic place to work. Let's celebrate each other and the incredible work we do together!

Staff Milestones

We are grateful for the dedication and hard work of all of our staff members, and are pleased to recognize those who have reached significant milestones in their career with **Harvard**.

40 Years

Jose Maldonado, Team Lead, Campus Services

25 Years

Bruce Macintyre, Senior Project Manager, Planning, Design, and Construction

Tracy Mahan, Administrative Manager, Planning, Design, and Construction

20 Years

Henry Pena, Mail Clerk III, Campus Services

15 Years

Nancy Padilla, Mail Clerk III, Campus Services

10 Years

Michael Sieminski, Associate Director of Facilities Engineering, Facilities

Ellen Adams, Senior Scheduling Coordinator, Campus Services

Joseph Tassone, Project Manager, Planning, Design, and Construction

Michael Ryan, Facilities and Operations Manager, Facilities

5 Years

Wendy Toussaint, Facilities Operations Analyst, Facilities

Kevin O'Leary, Associate Director of Security & Commuter Services, Campus Services

HCCM Milestones and Staff Recognitions can be found in the latest HCCM Newsletter.



Events & Benefits

Retirement Benefits Resources

Harvard Human Resources and our partners at Met Life and TIAA are offering a variety of online webinars in March and April 2025. For a full list of live and on-demand sessions, visit TIAA.org/webinarschedule to register.

Topics include:

- MetLife Tax Strategies: The Basics and Beyond
- Online Tax Planning Opportunities
- Quarterly Economic & Market Update
- Planning for Life Milestones
- Online Navigating the sandwich generation: Financial strategies for the caregiving squeeze

Staff Benefits

[Countway Cuddles: Pet Therapy](#)

The library provides Countway Cuddles pet therapy as a way to combat burnout, stress, and anxiety. During this program, campus members can drop in to our pet therapy area (Countway Library 1st floor couch area near the Shattuck Street entrance) to pet and play with therapy animals.

Be sure to [check the calendar](#) often for dates and contact the [Countway Outreach Team](#) with any questions!

[Libby for Harvard](#)

Borrow popular ebooks and audiobooks from Harvard Library through the Libby app by Overdrive. Additionally, as a Harvard affiliate based in Massachusetts, you are eligible to use the OverDrive collections of Boston Public Library and the MinuteMan Network via Cambridge Public Library. [Sign up](#) for a digital library card, and then add those cards in Libby to expand the number of titles you can borrow.

New offerings from [Outings & Innings](#) are added regularly. Use your HarvardKey to access exclusive deals and discounts on concert tickets, lift tickets, Red Sox tickets, museum and zoo entries, and much more.

If you are thinking about purchasing a gym membership, the [Vanderbilt Hall Athletic Facility](#) offers a staff benefit for \$42/month via payroll deduction. Staff are happy to provide you with a tour to check out the facility. Contact the [Athletic Director](#) to schedule a visit!

[Center for Workplace Development](#) has upcoming virtual and in-person workshops available on topics such as **Career Check Up: Assess and Plan for the Future** and **Retirement Income Planning with MetLife**.