Welcome Peg Peterson!

The Facility Management Office welcomed Peg Peterson on Sept 7th into the role of Assistant Director.

Peg began her career at the University as an architectural drafter for AEC. In 2005, she obtained her architectural license and began leading design teams for small to medium sized renovation projects across the Ann Arbor campus. She developed a specialization in research laboratory design and has led design teams for lab renovations for faculty in 5 CoE departments as well as faculty at LSA and the Medical School. While at AEC, she wore many other hats including design guideline developer, door hardware specialist, early career mentor, and space planner.

A few fun facts about Peg. She was such a book worm as a young child that she wanted to be a librarian when she grew up. This was fully cured by a part time job at her college library circulation desk. She still enjoys reading and playing the Ann Arbor District Library summer game with her 3 kids.

If Peg were an animal she would be a greyhound, not because she is fast and graceful but because she loves to run (and would like to experience that as one who is fast and graceful!) Peg also enjoys riding her bike to work and around town.

Please contact Peg with questions regarding physical space requests, space data inquiries, M-GIS, or energy analysis by emailing mhelner@umich.edu
We are kicking off a new feature in this issue of the CoEmmucator. The Facility Manager Spotlight will highlight 1-2 of our awesome facility managers each quarter.

Marti Moon, our longest serving Facility Manager, graciously agreed to contribute to our inaugural article.

Thank you Marti!

– Before working at UM, what was the most unusual or interesting job you’ve ever had?

• Although it may not sound very interesting or unusual, but I was 19 when I was hired as an entry level clerk at the UofM, CoE, SPRL, in the Space Research Building. The only other jobs I’d had were babysitting with my Mom to make ends meet, as she was a single mom, with two children to raise on her own. I also worked as a Sales Clerk at a Department Store in A2. The babysitting job taught me responsibility as a nine year old, and to have compassion and understanding for little ones. In high school I had a sales clerk job that helped get me out of my shell, as I was very shy. It gave me great joy helping people purchase special items as gifts for their loved ones, and I had several repeat customers who came in looking for me to help them on a regular basis.

– If you could switch your job with anyone else within UM, whose job would you want?

• I can't think of anyone else's job I'd want to switch to. I've held varying positions over these many years, and always did my very best to serve in whatever capacity I'm capable of. For the most part I've felt very satisfied with whatever challenge I was needing to tackle; always trying to surprise and delight my customers.

• How has UM changed since you started?

There are so many areas in which the UofM has changed in 55 yrs. that it is hard to choose. One area in which it's changed is in the number of students on campus. Students are the reason any of us are here, so supporting them is our primary purpose to be employed. There were ~20,000 back in 1966 and now a total of 48,090!! For us staff members, we too need to change to keep up with technology in how to do things in an expedientious fashion.
How has UM changed since you started? (cont)

In this regard, I would say the most important way that comes to mind personally is that we always need to be flexible, willing to change, and continuously improve in whatever season we happen to be going through, on so many different levels. We also need to look at our culture differently than we did 55 yrs. ago, which is a good thing. Having a more diverse group of faculty, staff and students helps us in our understanding and acceptance of the various backgrounds, cultures, faiths, etc., etc. that we come from. Another area that has changed dramatically is the professional development that is available to all. It is nothing short of "outstanding!" That did not exist 55 yrs. ago, with the exception of perhaps a personality testing seminar or how to use the "typewriter," before computers came to SPRL in 1983. Believe it or not, I typed dissertation thesis on a typewriter where one would type equations for the graduate students formal thesis!! Technology I think is probably the biggest change.

What has been your favorite project at UM?

This is a tough question, when one has worked in one place for so many years, I'd have to say being able to have our main entry (South wing) replaced some years ago to finally have CSRB be handicap accessible. I fought for years trying to get it higher on the FCA list for CSRB. I believe a former CoE Associate Dean was responsible for getting it "To Done!" The other project that I'm equally proud of is our "Mothering/Reflection" room that the CoE supported. When I gave birth to both my children, we had no location in which to hand pump breast milk but in a restroom. We also had no place where one could go to pray or just have a quiet place in which to unwind or reflect on the day. I furnished the Mothering room on my son's 50th birthday in honor of him and what those who are here can now fully take advantage of.

What is your proudest moment at UM?

I can't pick out just one moment having been here so long in serving all who have been brought across my path. If hard pressed to come up with one moment, it would be when both the UofM celebrated its' 200th year Anniversary, and at the same time I was celebrating 50 yrs. at the UofM!! I am very proud of that achievement. It just hit me then that I had been here 1/4 of the time the UofM had been in existence! The other fun fact is that the UofM started to exist on August 26, 1817, and Aug. 26th is my birthday!!! (just not 1817 - tee hee).
– If you were stuck on an island what three things would you bring?

• I’d bring my Bible, water to drink, and some matches to build a fire in order to send up smoke signals to be rescued from not being with people.

– What has been the most important innovation you have witnessed in your lifetime?

• I would have to say medical innovation and all the various ways diseases can be cured now, where I'd lost loved ones 20-25 yrs. ago (i.e., from breast cancer, Melanoma, heart disease, stroke, etc.). Now, with early prevention, treatment, & therapeutics, people can live longer and more productive lives. Without life we wouldn’t be able to shower love to all human beings of different genders, races and ethnicities, those with abilities and disabilities, religions, cultures, differing ages and sexual orientation. In short, to love all of God's Creation. Life, what a precious gift; the "Precious Present!"

– You’re happiest when?

• I'm happiest in a work setting when I'm able to contribute to the success of our Department, CoE, SPRL, and University as a whole in any way I'm capable of doing. I love all people, and enjoy nurturing and mentoring students who I've been privileged to work with for many years. It has given me great joy to see them be explorers by using all the tools they are given by the UofM to uncover something new that can make a difference in our world to make it better. This helps them look at the challenges and problems they face in a different way by using their creativity and problem solving skills. I can remember a former faculty member who taught an Engr. 100 class for years, and he intentionally had the students fail with their first project. He told me it was important for them to fail, not that they were failures, but he felt they needed to be taken down a peg or two having been accepted into the CoE. What a powerful lesson that was, and it also helped me when I've failed at doing something, knowing I wasn't a failure just because I had failed.

Lastly, I wasn't asked what I will be taking away when I am called to transition to leaving the UofM, and that is very easy to answer. It will be all the relationships I've been blessed to have forged with countless people of all kinds of backgrounds and life experiences.
UM officially transferred management of NCRC Building 28 to CoE as of July 1, 2021. This building contains research labs and faculty offices for the majority of ChE's faculty and also has a few labs and offices for MSE and ECE.

Due to the integration of Building 28’s mechanical and electrical systems within the NCRC complex, some aspects of the building will stay within the Michigan Medicine realm, but CoE will work closely with their facility management team to make the operations of Building 28 appear seamless to the occupants.

Michael Lee (erdragon@umich.edu/734-763-4366) has been assigned as the building manager.
New Biosafety Level 2 lab in EWRE

Renovations are winding down on a project to create a new Biosafety Level 2 lab for CEE Prof Krista Wigginton in the lower level of the EWRE Building.

Prof Wigginton's research deals with COVID-19 wastewater surveillance monitoring.
Thank you to all the CoE Emergency Response Team members for supporting and participating in the 2021 CoE Fire Drill 2021 season. These drills help prepare all building occupants to safely evacuate during a fire event. Below you’ll see some important reminders on evacuation procedures.

**EVACUATION PROCEDURES**

All building occupants should immediately make their way toward the nearest exit and adhere to the following procedures:

- Call 911 (once you are safely outside).
- Remain calm.
- Move quickly and calmly to the nearest emergency exit.
- Close doors and leave them unlocked, if possible.
- Do not use elevators.
- Do not run, push or shove when descending the emergency exit stairwell. Descend stairs two abreast with arms linked. Be sure to grasp the handrail with your free hand.
- Use a minimum of conversation to allow authorities and emergency first responders to communicate over you.
- Use an established evacuation route and meet at the designated assembly area(s). Do not congregate in the building’s entrance.
- Assign a staff member whose responsibility will be to account for all persons in their designated area.
- Do not return to the building until an official all clear is given.

If you would like to join your building’s emergency response team and receive training in fire and severe weather drills, AED, First Aid, and fire extinguisher usage, please contact Amanda Keel (keelar@umich.edu)
Gerstacker CUOS Expansion

A large renovation project is underway in the southern portion of the Gerstacker Building to create a new lab space for the Gerard Mourou Center for Ultrafast Optical Science (CUOS). This NSF sponsored project will create a home for ZEUS, a zettawatt equivalent ultra-short pulse laser system that will be the highest powered laser system in the US and among the highest in the world. ZEUS will allow exploration of nonlinear quantum electrodynamics.

To facilitate the expansion of the COUS lab facility, two MSE labs were decommissioned and moved to Dow. Construction is anticipated to be completed at the end of October and new experiments will begin after the laser system is installed in 2022.
Adirondack Chairs on the Grove

This summer, CoE’s Office of Student Affairs and the Special Events Office spearheaded an effort to obtain and install Adirondack chairs on the Gerstacker Grove. The twenty-four chairs arrived the first of September and will remain as long as the weather permits.

CoE Fire Inspector Duane Lee has replaced Phil Sabon. Please contact Duane for coordination of building fire safety maintenance inspections, safety reviews of special events, and Life Safety Systems acceptance testing. (duanelee@umich.edu / 734-615-2718)
If there is anything that the Facilities Management Office can do to make your transition back to campus smoother please don’t hesitate to reach out to coefmostaff@umich.edu

HOW TO GET AN ENGINEER’S ATTENTION

- Break something
- Free coffee

Say, “there’s gotta be a better way to do this.”

When you finish a good movie on Netflix and see that there’s a sequel

When everyone is getting off the zoom call but you’re struggling to find the leave meeting button so then it’s just you and the host