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On September 20, this facilities education event brought together professionals from around the Greater Philadelphia area for discussions on best practices, lessons learned, and plans for the future of FM.

September 24, 2018

*Emergency planning, energy projects, workplace design, construction project management, and career development resources were the topics of the day at the second annual **Facility Executive Live!** on September 20, 2018 in Philadelphia. Held on the University of Pennsylvania campus, this conference event brought together facility management professionals — as both attendees and presenters — to discuss trends, challenges, and successful strategies.*



On September 20, 2018, Facility Executive Live! was held inside Houston Hall at the University of Pennsylvania campus.

The day began with Bo Mitchell, President of 911 Consulting in Wilton, CT expounding on the “17 Gaps That Sabotage Your Emergency Plans.” In his hour-long timely and informative presentation, Mitchell outlined the role facility

management plays in emergency planning and offered expert advice on how to fill the gaps that may exist in an organization's emergency plan at any given time.

*An energy-focused session followed, with Anne Cosgrove, Editor-in-Chief of **Facility Executive** magazine, moderating this panel discussion. From establishing a long-term plan to monitoring day-to-day efficiencies, the talk focused on best practices and lessons learned. Panelists were: Emily Schapira, Executive Director, Philadelphia Energy Authority; Craig Harnitcheck, Design Engineer, The School District of Philadelphia; Jen Robinson, Smart Ideas Outreach Manager, PECO; and James (J.B.) Messer, Chief Facilities Officer, Community College of Allegheny County (PA).*

Exhibits Complement Facilities Education

Throughout the day, Facility Executive Live! attendees visited with representatives of sponsor companies for the event. These product and service providers showcased their offerings, talking with attendees about how their offerings fit into the facility management landscape. These displays and the conversations that took place complemented the conference sessions. Those companies in attendance sponsoring this year's event were:

- AGF
- Augury
- CertaPro Painters
- JBCI
- Loctek
- NexGen Security
- Patriot Energy Group
- Signify
- Special-Lite
- Tri-M
- Vertical Systems Analysis





Attendees at Facility Executive Live! in Philadelphia visited with the event sponsors to learn about their products and services for facility management.

After visiting with vendors, attendees reconvened for a panel discussion about the “Impact of Workplace Design”—and how facilities and real estate professionals maximize their role in this process. Panelists shared their workplace design goals and discussed how they’ve steered their organizations’ move toward improved environments across their facilities. Participating on the panel were: Andrew Nye, Chief, Facilities Management Services, United Nations Headquarters; Bryon Olsen, Director of Corporate Real Estate, Willis Towers Watson; and Magda Krapf, Architect, JacobsWyper Architects.

Next up was a talk on Construction Project Management. New construction and major renovations require project teams to take a holistic view of the project requirements, and facility management professionals are key players in this process. Drawing on their experiences, panelists offered strategies they implement to ensure successful outcomes. Participants were: Jeff O’Neill, Senior Director of Facilities, Pennsylvania Hospital, Penn Medicine; Christine Workman, Project Manager, Vertical Systems Analysis, Inc.; James (J.B.) Messer, Chief Facilities Officer, Community College of Allegheny County; and Kevin Borg, Asst. Athletic Director, Facilities and Project Management, UCLA Athletics.



Panelists discuss Construction Project Management Strategies at Facility Executive Live! in Philadelphia. From l to r: Kevin Borg, UCLA; Jeff O’Neill, Pennsylvania Hospital; Christine Workman, Vertical Systems Analysis; and James (J.B.) Messer, Community College of Allegheny County.

Facility Executive Live! 2018 concluded with a lively discussion focus on professional development for facility management leaders — and also addressed how to find and train the next generation of facilities professionals. The opportunities for current and future facility professionals are vast as their sphere of influence on organizational success continues to grow. Panelists offered advice on taking your career to the next level, while fostering those who are new to the profession, or who haven't yet discovered the world of facility management.

Sharing their own experiences and strategies were: Judie Cooper, CFM, Associate Director of Organizational Development, Office of Facilities Management and Reliability, Smithsonian Institution; Marcella Garwood, Facilities Manager, Comcast Corporation; Kevin Borg, Assistant Athletic Director, Facilities and Project Management, UCLA Athletics; Tom Dunn, Senior Managing Consultant, Helbling & Associates; Alana Dunoff, Principal, AFD Facility Planning, and Adjunct Professor at Temple University

Stay tuned for information on Facility Executive Live! in Fall 2019. If you have any questions or are interested in attending, please contact Facility Executive Editor-in-Chief, Anne Cosgrove at acosgrove@groupc.com, or call 732-559-1250.

You Might Like:

- **Improve Emergency Planning At 2018 Facility Executive Live!** On September 20, 2018 in Philadelphia, PA, learn the 17 gaps that may threaten the effectiveness of your safety and security plans.
- **In Chicago, Facility Executive Live! Covered Range Of Topics** Presented by Facility Executive magazine earlier this week, the conference brought together facilities professionals and other industry experts to discuss technology, energy, security, workplace design, and more.
- **Be Part Of Facility Executive Live! In Philadelphia This Fall** Registration is now open for Facility Executive Live! Now in its second year, the September 20, 2018 event is tailored to address the diverse responsibilities of facility management.



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