EM 524 Program and Facilities Management

Program and facilities management is the process of allocating resources for the operation and maintenance of a facility to allow continued performance of the facilities intended function. A range of forces including new tools, methodologies and new roles in the design process are shaping fundamental cultural and business changes in the design and construction industry as indicated by joint effort by the National Association of State Facilities Administrators (NASFA); Construction Owners Association of America (COAA); The Association of Higher Education Facilities Officers (APPA); Associated General Contractors of America (AGC); and American Institute of Architects (AIA).

To develop a graduate level understanding of construction management all project participants (owners, designers and constructors) must be aware of needs of the Owner’s Organization. This course relates the student to this crucial aspect. The Facility Management Journal, the official magazine of IFMA. FMJ is written specifically by and for professionals who are concerned with developing and maintaining productive workplaces.

With more than 7,000 unique job titles within facility management (according to an IFMA report), it's no surprise that Jeffrey W. Rogers, Ph.D. from Rochester Institute of Technology, says, "Facility management, as a profession is a recession-proof profession. If organizations are not expending their physical assets in good economic times, they are maintaining their existing physical assets in bad economic times. Therefore, all organizations that have physical assets must hire facility managers." - See more at: http://www.ifma.org/publications/blog-fmj/article/blog-fmj/2012/09/21/four-of-today's-top-careers-in-facility-management#sthash.WLSYMFAr.dpuf

As the industry continues to shift, grow and adopt new technologies, traditional roles are also evolving and new positions are being created in the facility management realm. Here are four of the most in-demand positions in today's facility management market:

- Maintenance Managers
- Building Automation System (BAS) Techs
- Sustainability Managers & Sustainability Engineers
- Analysts

For those seeking upper-level facility management positions, there are several education and professional considerations that should be kept in mind. Another 2011 IFMA report shows that more than two-thirds of facility managers have a bachelor's degree or higher. Twenty percent of those FMs have a master’s degree or higher, with the most common area of study being business, followed closely by engineering. Additionally, certifications significantly boost a potential employee's specialty, credibility, and therefore, chances of ongoing success in FM employment. Some preferred credentials include the IFMA's Certified Facility Manager, HVAC certification and LEED AP. See more at: http://www.ifma.org/publications/blog-fmj/article/blog-fmj/2012/09/21/four-of-today's-top-careers-in-facility-management#sthash.WLSYMFAr.dpuf