
Event Agenda

MiAPPA 2025 Summer Conference

Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Wednesday, July 16, 2025

Exhibitor Registration & Exhibit Hall Set-up

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM | Location: Blue/Green Lobby - Conference Center

Registration for the Exhibitors/Sponsors will be available from 9 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Registration will resume after the Golf Outing and prior to the Welcome Reception.

Golf Outing & Bloody Mary Bar (sponsored by The Collaborative & MacMillan)

11:45 AM – 5:00 PM | Location: The Heathers Golf Course

Bloody Mary Bar sponsored by The Collaborative and MacMillan

Welcome Reception

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM | Location: Blue / Green Room

Join us in the Exhibit Hall for the Welcome Reception. Mix with the exhibitors and your colleagues as we kick off the Summer Conference!

Thursday, July 17, 2025

Registration & Breakfast

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM | Location: Blue / Green Room

Registration and breakfast begin at 7 a.m.

Keynote Address - Adversity, Change, Chaos... Threat or Opportunity

8:00 AM – 8:50 AM | Location: Blue / Green Room

The turbulent and chaotic world of college football; transfer portal, revenue share, NIL mirrors the turbulent and chaotic world of life. A breakfast conversation to explore the threats and opportunities that are present in today's changing times.

Speaker



Scott Wooster

Head Football Coach | Grand Valley State University

Educational Session 1

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM | Location: HHI Champion East / West or Blue Green Room

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

Climbing Toward Carbon Neutrality: Decarbonizing HVAC in Higher Education

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

As facilities evolve to meet new environmental standards and stakeholder expectations, the challenge of HVAC decarbonization looms large—especially in higher education, where aging infrastructure intersects with ambitious sustainability goals and tight budgets. In this session, Joe will tackle the mountain of change facing facility managers: how to reduce the carbon footprint of HVAC systems, which remain the top energy consumers in buildings. With momentum building across federal, state, and corporate sustainability initiatives, Joe will explore proven and emerging strategies for HVAC decarbonization in campus settings—offering a roadmap to carbon neutrality that not only supports climate goals but also delivers measurable financial savings through energy efficiency and lifecycle cost reductions.

Speaker



Joe Kutil

Decarbonization Team Lead | Michigan Air Products

The Common Sense AI Workplace

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

This presentation will demonstrate how Michigan Tech developed a cloud-based environment that provides the Facilities Management team with easy access to documents, training, maps, procedures, photos, videos and other useful information. This layered graphical interface includes integration with the campus BMS, document management system and SkySpark to alert technicians to asset deficiencies, and offers advice on the possible solution to the problem.

Speakers



Dave Krings

Director Energy Management | Michigan Technological University



Jeff Twardzik

President | QModoAI

Modeling Energy Conservation Potential at Scale: Power BI Tools for Building Level Planning at the University of Michigan

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

As part of the North Campus Utility Master Plan, AEI developed a scalable, interactive Power BI platform to support long-term capital planning and energy demand reduction across the University of Michigan's North Campus. This session will highlight the methodology and application of a modeling tool built on physical audits of 43 representative buildings.

These audits were translated into building typologies and used to simulate campus-wide energy conservation measure (ECM) bundles across three levels of implementation. The Power BI interface allows facilities staff and planners to visualize the energy and cost impacts of ECMs, prioritize retrofits, and evaluate the timing and cost-effectiveness of steam-to-hot-water conversion. The model supports transparent, data-driven decision-making and serves as a repeatable planning framework aligned with institutional carbon reduction goals.

Speaker



Andrew Price

Energy & Utilities Market Leader | AFFILIATED ENGINEERS

Educational Session 2

9:55 AM – 10:40 AM

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

Progressing the Pace of Change/ Industry 4.0 and its Demand for Accelerated Innovation

9:55 AM – 10:40 AM

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

Through the shifting paradigms of advanced technology, our culture, industry, economy and methods of education are no longer being evolved, they are disrupted. Much of this disruption is occurring around the accelerated pace of change happening around innovation for Industry 4.0. Industry 4.0 is centered around a technology-driven future that focuses on growth engines for new Readiness, Logistics, Green, Remote and Automated Economies. The newly established College of Innovation & Technology (CIT) at the University of Michigan Flint aims to become a transformative leader in the polytechnic experience, driving economic development and creating a sustainable next-generation community. It provides degree programs in these high-demand fields with career opportunities that play an increasingly crucial role in Michigan's technology-driven future. Jobs opportunities in these fields are projected to nearly double the rate of the overall job market and comprise one out of six jobs in the US in the next few years.

Speakers



Chris Pearson

Dean of the College of Innovation and Technology | University of Michigan - Flint



Aubree Ackett

Lead Project Designer | Integrated Design Solutions



Andrea Everett

Project Manager Coordinator | Integrated Design Solutions



Katy Litwin

Integrated Design Solutions

Artificial Intelligence and the Future of AI in Architecture

9:55 AM – 10:40 AM

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

The evolution of architectural design has been a fascinating journey, transitioning from hand drafting to the utilization of computer-aided design (CAD) and Building Information Modeling (BIM). Today, the horizon of architecture is expanding even further with the introduction of Artificial Intelligence (AI). This presentation will explore the historical context of architectural design and how past innovations lay the groundwork for today's advancements. We will also look at current technologies enhancing architectural design, like Matterport, before taking a deep dive into the future of AI in architecture. By examining tools for site planning, space planning, and facility monitoring, attendees will gain insight into how AI is revolutionizing the industry. This comprehensive overview aims not only to inform but also to inspire new ways of thinking about architecture and real estate development.

Speaker



Ryan Birkey

Associate Partner, Director of Innovation and Technology | Design Collaborative

The Changing Landscape of Custodial Services in Higher Education

9:55 AM – 10:40 AM

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

The custodial services industry has changed significantly over the past five years. We will address the major trends and challenges universities are facing and explore strategies that can help us navigate these shifts effectively. We will delve into a unique solution that is creating a win/win opportunities for one university.

Speakers



Glen Huizenga

Sales Superhero | Enviro-Clean Services, Inc.



Ed Wierzbicki

Director of Custodial and Operations | Grand Valley State University

Educational Session 3

10:50 AM – 11:35 AM

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

The Economics and Truth About HVAC Asset Management with Assessment and Restoration: The ROI of HVAC Restoration

10:50 AM – 11:35 AM

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

This presentation examines the benefits of restoring aging HVAC systems as a cost-effective and sustainable alternative to replacement. It will cover performance improvements such as increased airflow, enhanced cooling capacity, and improved energy efficiency. The restoration process includes steam coil cleaning, application of specialized coatings, installation of closed cell insulation, and ECM fan array upgrades. Solutions for restoring units in inaccessible locations will also be addressed. Overall, restoration offers long-term savings and minimal disruption while extending equipment life.

Speaker



Nick Novy

Regional Manager - Great Lakes | WTI Pure Air Control Services

Destigmatizing Through Design: Designing for CTE (Career & Technical Education)

10:50 AM – 11:35 AM

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

The stigmatization of CTE and the misconceptions that surround it are contributing factors to CTE's varied success throughout the nation and have led some to question the efficacy of technical education in the school system. CTE is a broad term for education that combines academic and technical skills with knowledge and training needed to succeed in today's labor market. It prepares students by introducing them to competencies needed in today's real world. Challenging the antiquated definitions associated with CTE is needed so we can truly leverage opportunities for all students while simultaneously strengthening career-readiness for students across the board. Understanding the difference between the previously offered vocational education and modern day CTE pathways is an important conversation to help provide the clarity needed for today's students.

Speaker



George Kacan

Regional Director, Royal Oak | Wightman

How to Pick a Contractor

10:50 AM – 11:35 AM

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

How do you pick a contractor? Do your interviews take place in the board room setting? Have you had to conduct interviews via Zoom? Who ultimately makes the decision? As facility managers and campus planners, what criteria is most important to you? We took an out of the box approach on a recent major project and would love to share our findings.

Speakers



Kara Slater

Director of Operations | Hope College



Nick Duthler

Facilities Operations Manager | Hope College



Kelly Bublitz

Maintenance and Construction Manager | Hope College



Adam Tweedy

Director of Preconstruction | Owen Ames Kimball

Exhibit Hall & Lunch

11:30 AM – 2:00 PM | Location: Blue / Green Room

Educational Session 4

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

Evolving Access

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

There have been transformative advancements in access control systems for university campuses; emphasizing mobile credentials, wireless locks, and integrations with video surveillance systems. As security demands evolve, mobile credentials offer seamless, secure access via smartphones, enhancing user convenience and operational efficiency. Wireless locks provide flexible, cost-effective solutions, enabling rapid deployment and scalability without extensive cabling. Integration with video surveillance systems creates a cohesive security ecosystem, allowing real-time monitoring and incident response. The session will highlight practical applications, and discuss benefits such as improved safety, reduced costs, and streamlined management. We will discuss emerging trends, technical considerations, partnering across departments, and strategies for transitioning to modern access control systems, empowering facilities personnel to enhance campus security and adaptability in an ever-changing environment.

Integrated Building Systems for the Sustainable Future

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

Integrated Building Systems (IBS) are designed to improve staff efficiency and make better use of technology by automating various tasks and optimizing resources.

- Integrated Building Management Systems (IBS) bring building management functions into one place, reducing the need for staff to handle different systems separately. Managing HVAC, power equipment, lighting, and security becomes more efficient for current and future staff. This is increasingly more valuable when facility staff change due to retirement or turnover.
- With technology automation, routine facility management tasks like adjusting HVAC settings, controlling lighting, and monitoring power quality are maintained without human intervention.
- Leveraging data analytics enables better decision-making and resource optimization. It also allows for proactive maintenance, addressing issues before they become problems.

This session will explore how IBS streamlines building management, automates routine tasks, and use data to improve the efficiency of people and facilities, reducing energy and operational costs.

Speaker



Matthew Klok, CEM®, CBCP®, CEA®

Havel, A Division of Shambaugh & Son, L.

Digital Twins - How It All Works

2:00 PM – 2:45 PM

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

Discover how digital twin technology is revolutionizing facility management in this engaging presentation designed for facility owners and operators. We'll explore the key motivations for adopting digital twins, outline the essential steps for implementation, and discuss the challenges and opportunities that come with this innovative approach.

Attendees will get a firsthand look at real-world digital twin examples through a dynamic mix of visuals, video, and live demonstrations. Whether you're new to digital twins or looking to deepen your understanding, this session will provide practical insights and inspiration for harnessing the future of smart facility management.

Speaker



Michael Pfaff

Reality Capture Advisor | Rowe PSC

Educational Session 5

2:55 PM – 3:40 PM

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

Mountains and Mole Hills - Preconstruction Communication Tools to Enhance Performance

2:55 PM – 3:40 PM

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

Effective project communication can transform complex challenges into manageable tasks. This presentation demonstrates how leveraging multi-faceted software tools, specifically JOIN, significantly improves project communication, streamlines collaboration, and prioritizes customer value. We will illustrate how JOIN organizes project insights, supports idea exploration from initial concepts through design and buyout, and facilitates continuous attention to critical factors such as cost management, schedule adherence, value generation, and design excellence. Real-world examples will highlight the transformative impact of clear, structured communication on project outcomes, reducing complexity and aligning stakeholders toward shared objectives. Attendees will gain practical insights into optimizing their own project management practices through strategic tool implementation, fostering a collaborative environment that enhances performance and customer satisfaction.

Speakers



Colin Martin

Project Executive | Barton Malow



Jeffrey Johnson

Senior Vice President | Integrated Design Solutions



Joe Schwartz

Vice President, Director of Mechanical Engineering | Integrated Design Solutions



Jason Pociask

Director of Precon | Barton Malow

Optimize to Maximize: Evolving Existing Campus Assets

2:55 PM – 3:40 PM

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

University of Kentucky's White Hall Classroom Building is a story of evolution that optimizes the renovation dollars while maximizing the student experience. Reluctant to erase its legacy status, and eager to sustainably leverage the facility's embodied energy, the campus sought to renew rather than replace. The University engaged the design team to conduct a campuswide classroom utilization resulting in a data informed approach to the program, revealing much needed student collaboration space.

The renovation respects the original midcentury design by retaining its bold white concrete exo-structure and focuses on the student experience by peeling away at the previously opaque facade, doubling natural light at classrooms, opening up full corners into glazed study commons, and expanding the ground floor out into an activated collaboration hub. The renovations will evolve White Hall's learning environments with modernizations that engage students in an inclusive, technology-driven, and energy conscience facility.

Speakers



Tricia Beck

Vice President | Higher Education Studio Leader | SmithGroup



Bill Ash

Design Principal | SmithGroup

Wayne State University - Boiler Modernization Benchmark for Peak Performance

2:55 PM – 3:40 PM

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

Speakers



Rob Davenport

Associate Vice President, Facilities Planning and Management | Wayne State University



Michael McCanny

Director, Central Operations | Wayne State University



James Brock

Sr. Director O & M Hard Services | Wayne State University

Educational Session 6

3:50 PM – 4:35 PM

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

Emerging Technologies to Help Move from Reactive to Proactive

3:50 PM – 4:35 PM

TRACK 1 - HHI CHAMPION WEST

A review of current and emerging technologies that facility teams are using to help identify issues early to drive continuous improvement and shift from being reactive to proactive. Topics include cloud analytics, AI, and on demand remote support as a means to improve the daily life of facility support teams. We will also address the financial challenges and funding opportunities colleges and universities can leverage to improve the overall learning experience for students.

Speakers



Kurt Barrett

Great Lakes Regional Digital Services Leader | Trane Technologies



Gwen Petit

Trane Technologies

Mass Timber: Getting to Yes

3:50 PM – 4:35 PM

TRACK 2 - HHI CHAMPION EAST

Many MiAPPA attendees are familiar with the benefits of mass timber construction, particularly on college campuses, including improved sustainability, constructability, occupant comfort, among other metrics. What's less clear, however, is why so many projects start out with mass timber ambitions before ultimately settling into more familiar structural systems. This presentation looks at key decisions in the life of a mass timber project, including code analysis, system selection, cost and schedule estimation, procurement, and others, with recommendations on how to "get to yes" for your mass timber project.

Speaker



Nathan Sosin

Principal | Thornton Tomasetti

The Case for a Centralized Chilled Water Plant

3:50 PM – 4:35 PM

TRACK 3 - BLUE GREEN ROOM (OR TBD)

A centralized (regional) chilled water plant provides strategic advantages for an institutional campus when compared to deployment of building-specific cooling solutions. A comprehensive analysis reveals that the long-term benefits and overall value proposition of a centralized system can outweigh the initial costs of additional distribution infrastructure. This makes centralization the preferred solution for achieving optimal efficiency, enhancing system reliability, and meeting sustainability goals. This presentation explores the evolution of this strategy at Michigan State University, featuring insights from MSU Southwest Regional Chilled Water Plant project team members, including MSU IPF, Peter Basso & Associates and Granger Construction. They will share the background context, details of the evaluation, and decision-making process that ultimately led MSU to embrace a centralized plan. The discussion will highlight the compelling technical and financial rationale that supports a centralized model and makes this approach the optimal choice for MSU.

Speakers



Paul Roller

Project Director | Granger Construction



Sue Hopper

Michigan State University



John Bort

Granger Construction



Joel Seidl

Vice President | Peter Basso Associates

Himalayan Happy Hour - Sponsored by Granger

5:30 PM – 6:45 PM | Location: Doon Brae Short Course

Join us for a Pre-Young Americans Dinner event on the Doon Brae Shortcourse! The golf team at Boyne will have activities and putting games for the group. The Happy Hour is sponsored by Granger!

The new short course at The Highlands is named Doon Brae, where Doon means going down into a valley, and Brae means hillside in Scottish, is fitting as the routing of the course is set along the hillside that doubles as a ski slope during the winter months.

Doon Brae and the accompanying Back Yaird 27-hole Himalayan putting course at The Highlands are entirely new designs from renowned Michigan golf course architect Ray Hearn. The course will feature downhill, flat, uphill, and sidehill fairway lies, generally moving horizontally back and forth across the slope. Two to three

fairway options are available for each hole, and you can be creative with the placement of your tee shots. The unique Doon Brae course will be lit for nighttime rounds as it is set along the lower slopes skiers frequent in the winter.

The Back Yaird putting course is at the foot of the slopes, on 1 ½ acres, near the Main Lodge. The undulations will “test” the skills of all levels of golfers and non-golfers in a relaxed setting, and the correct “aiming point” is often not the straightest.

Young Americans Dinner & Performance

7:00 PM – 10:00 PM | Location: Camelot Room & Zoo Bar

The Young Americans Dinner Theatre will be back at The Highlands at Harbor Springs, formerly known as Boyne Highlands, in Harbor Springs, Michigan for the summer. Dating back to 1978, it's one of the longest-running dinner theaters in the country! The Highlands is celebrating the 47th Anniversary of The Young Americans' Dinner Theatre (no show in 2020), a popular tradition in northern Michigan. The Young Americans ensemble is made up of young performers from across the U.S. who perform on stage, singing and dancing to a live band, while guests enjoy a dinner designed by our chef alongside a Broadway-style performance. We hope you will join us for an experience to remember!

Friday, July 18, 2025

Breakfast

8:00 AM – 9:00 AM | Location: Blue / Green Room

Planning for Change - Integrating Evolving Technology to Meet Campus Operational and Security Needs.

8:15 AM – 9:00 AM | Location: Blue / Green Room

As campus demands evolve, higher education institutions are challenged to integrate advanced technology to meet immediate needs while planning for long-term infrastructure change. This presentation highlights how one university addressed fragmented and siloed security systems across multiple campuses, including KCAD and Ferris State University, by conducting a comprehensive vulnerability assessment and engaging a cross-functional team from police, IT, facilities, and leadership. The result was a phased, strategic rollout of unified access control and camera systems across 130 buildings, prioritized by urgency and budget. Beyond security, the initiative illustrates how technology can enhance all facets of facilities operations, including maintenance, custodial services, grounds, and energy management. We'll explore the importance of collaboration, aligning stakeholder priorities, and designing systems that support flexibility and scalability. Attendees will walk away with practical strategies for transitioning from reactive to proactive planning and real-world insights into leveraging evolving technologies to create safer, more efficient, and more connected campus environments.

Speakers



Eric Rinehart

Senior Technology Designer | Manager of Technology | TowerPinkster



Tim Jacobs

Deputy Director | Ferris State University Police Department

Impact of Changes of the 2021 Michigan Energy Code

9:10 AM – 9:55 AM | Location: Blue / Green Room

This session distills the 2021 Michigan Energy Code into practical insight for architects, engineers, and owners. A multidisciplinary team will compare ASHRAE 90.1-2013 with 90.1-2019, highlighting new compliance paths, envelope requirements, HVAC efficiencies, and lighting-power thresholds that reshape design assumptions. Focused “deep dives” will examine provisions poised to disrupt common practices—such as tighter air-leakage testing, expanded demand-control ventilation, and revised plug-load allowances—while an integrated view shows how architectural, mechanical, and electrical decisions now intersect. Attendees will gain a clear understanding of mandatory versus prescriptive options, strategies for cost-effective compliance, and operational considerations to maintain performance after occupancy, equipping them to lead projects under the updated code.

Speakers



Todd Vercruysse

Senior Associate, Assistant Director of Mechanical Engineering | Integrated Design Solutions



Kevin Aalderink, AIA



Nick Furgason, LC

Associate, Lead Lighting and Controls Specialist | Integrated Design Solutions

MiAPPA Business Meeting - Conclusion of Conference

10:00 AM – 10:30 AM