



Community Newsletter

FMO Wins “Unusual” Award—Page 3!

CommuterChoice is a Perfect 10

If you walk, bike, take public transportation, or carpool to work, chances are *CommuterChoice* affects your life and this year the group is celebrating a major milestone - its tenth anniversary. For a decade, *CommuterChoice* has been providing faculty and staff with convenient options, financial incentives, and environmental benefits for using alternative transportation.

The program was created by Director of Transportation Services John Nolan who realized early on that a formal approach to providing alternative commuting options was necessary at Harvard. “Back in 2000, there were some incentives for faculty and staff to use, say, public transportation, however a comprehensive strategy covering many modes of transportation was missing,” said Nolan. With tremendous support from the University’s leadership, Nolan began building what would become one of the most awarded and successful alternative transportation programs in higher education.

To start, John hired Holly Parker and Carolyn Pisarczyk to run the program and began an effort to better communicate the current University T-Pass discounts. The transit discount, initially set at 10% by the University, was increased

to 40% and then 50%. Today with the help of increased University support, and the implementation of on-line sales, *CommuterChoice* sells over 6,600 passes every month which represents an increase of over 1,500 passes per month since the program’s inception.

Over the years, *CommuterChoice* has grown its portfolio of services to include nearly all types of transportation. With support from Parking Services, carpoolers and those who drive low emission vehicles (LEVs) enjoy preferential parking locations. Free preferred parking is available to faculty and staff participating in a University Vanpool. Harvard

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Presenting the 1st Annual Green Carpet Awards

It’s time to roll out the “green carpet!” On April 23rd, The Office for Sustainability will honor members of the Harvard community who have helped reduce greenhouse gas emissions and improved environmental sustainability. The nomination process is still open and UOS employees are strongly encouraged to nominate their co-workers!



Two types of awards will be given. Individual awards for those who have developed, worked on, and/or implemented projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions or improve overall sustainability. A project can be job-related or the project can be something an employee initiated on his/her own. Group Project awards will be given to teams of employees who collectively developed, worked on, and/or implemented a project that reduced greenhouse gas emissions or improved overall sustainability.

The awards ceremony in Memorial Hall will be preceded by an hour long Sustainability Fair and followed by a celebratory bash at the Queen’s Head Pub.

For more information on the event and nominating a co-worker visit green.harvard.edu/greencarpet. Please return nomination forms to michael_conner@harvard.edu by Friday, April 2. We’ll see you at the awards!

Divine Dining at the Divinity School



Jyoti Rana is not only a superb custodial supervisor, she’s also a fantastic cook. Jyoti recently created a few samples of her delicious Indian cuisine for her customers at the Divinity School. They liked it so much, they asked if she would prepare lunch for the entire staff! So being the customer focused professional that she is, Jyoti accepted and the reviews were all outstanding.



Find one of Jyoti’s favorite Indian recipes on page 4!

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affiliates can become ZipCar members for a discounted annual fee of \$25, and those who bike to work have access to numerous new bicycle racks across the University. *CommuterChoice* even created a map of bike rack locations and suggested campus-wide routes which can be viewed and downloaded by visiting the bicycling section of: www.commuterchoice.harvard.edu. *CommuterChoice* also offers pre-tax savings on the purchase of private transit products.

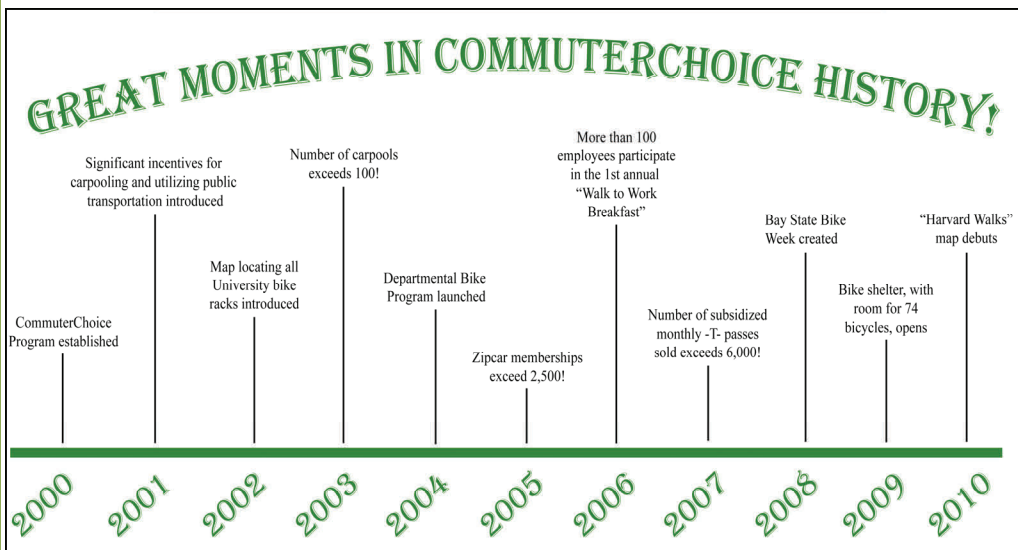
CommuterChoice also developed a Departmental Bike Program with participation from 16 University departments utilizing 37 shared bikes. In fact, one highly visible symbol of Harvard's commitment to alternative transportation is the Francis Avenue Bike Shelter which *CommuterChoice* was instrumental in developing. The shelter provides covered parking for 74 bikes and 2 motor scooters—interior lighting is even solar powered.

One new and exciting initiative *CommuterChoice* is participating in is the development of a Regional Bike Sharing Program. Working in conjunction with the cities of Cambridge and Boston, a network of "stations" will be established where anyone could rent and return bikes just by swiping their credit card. "We're also developing a program to reimburse faculty and staff who purchase bike related equipment such as locks and helmets. And hopefully sometime soon we'll offer enhanced financial incentives for those who participate in external vanpools," said Kris Locke, current Manager of *CommuterChoice*, TDM & Sustainability.

To say *CommuterChoice* has had a positive impact on the Harvard community would be a bit of an understatement. Only 14% of faculty and staff drive alone to work – the national average is well over 75%. "We're proud of this statistic," added Locke, "However there's much more work to be done." *CommuterChoice* will soon introduce a new car sharing program called Zim-ride, which will facilitate shared rides with friends and other users when driving private vehicles or a ZipCar. This service will help reduce the cost of travel while also reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

To celebrate the tenth anniversary, *CommuterChoice* will award special 10-pack prize packs at many upcoming events including the annual Spring Walk to Work Breakfast, Wednesday, April 28 from 7:30-9:30am at the MAC Quad and Bike to Work Breakfast, Wednesday, May 19, 7:30-9:30 am at the Au Bon Pain at Holyoke Center. Don't forget to also discover the campus by picking up a copy of the new "Harvard Walks" map. For more information on all of the commuting options available to the Harvard community, visit www.commuterchoice.harvard.edu. Congratulations to John, Carolyn, Kris, and the rest of the *CommuterChoice* team for 10 great years of innovation and success.

(zoom in on timeline for greater detail)



ODDS & ENDS

All UOS Computer Users Must Participate in Security Training

All UOS employees who have network and e-mail access are required to take information security training. The training is available on-line by following this link: <http://eureka.harvard.edu/Eureka/courses.cfm?categoryID=39>. Employees must complete the training, which takes about 20-30 minutes, by April 30, 2010. If you have any questions please contact Paul Malagrifa at 6-9151.

Big Savings for CharlieCard Holders!

Your CharlieCard gives you access to the MBTA, but did you know it can also be your ticket to big discounts on some of the areas most popular events, attractions and services? For instance, by presenting your card you can receive discounted admission to Boston Duck Tours, the New England Aquarium, and Boston Harbor Cruises. Or enjoy savings at restaurants like Aura, select Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream Shops, and Café of India. Even save at retail outlets like City Sports—Boston, The Irish Cottage Gift Shop, and Eddie Bauer. For a complete list of businesses offering discounts to CharlieCard holders visit www.mbta.com.

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Gone Fishin'...For a Good Cause

Parking Monitor Bob Cedrone is growing accustomed to hobnobbing with high profile figures such as Harvard President Drew Faust and Boston Mayor Tom Menino. Bob volunteers with an organization called The Fishing Academy which, as the name suggests, teaches inner-city kids how to fish. The Fishing Academy recently received a \$5,000 grant from the Harvard Allston Partnership Fund to continue its work with kids in the Allston-Brighton Area. The ceremony was held in the Harvard Allston Skating Rink. That night, a total of \$100,000 was donated by Harvard to 9 non-profit organizations.



(l-r) Harvard President Drew Faust, Bob Cedrone, Boston City Councilor Marc Ciommo

And the Award Goes To....

Thanks to FMO Landscape and Custodial Services, the area around Adams House on Bow Street has been given a new and somewhat unusual honor. The United Postal Service just awarded FMO with the Best Shoveled Block in Cambridge Award for using extreme vigilance and hard work to ensure the sidewalks around Adams House are always free of snow, safe, and passable—which the mailmen certainly appreciate. Several members of FMO Custodial Services were presented with a certificate from Cambridge Mayor David P. Maher during a ceremony at the Central Square Post Office.



(l-r) Cambridge Mayor David P. Maher, Crew Chief Elson Callejas, Custodian Ramon Casas, Custodian Isidore Celestin, Operations Manager Augusto Arevalo

The People of UOS

Did you know that UOS employs more than 700 people and most of them work in various locations around the University. We would like to take some time to highlight the employees who are on the front lines everyday, performing important work, and interacting with our customers and the greater Harvard community.



Nelta Laguer has been a custodian at Harvard for the last 25 years. She was born and raised in Haiti.

What's your typical day like? I work over in the Athletics area. I clean Gordon Track and Field, the Beren Tennis Facility, and the Weld Boat House. I also work during the football games and other sporting events.

What part of your job do you like the best? I really like that the people I interact with are nice and they treat me with respect. I like coming to work everyday and I always try to do the best job that I can.

Diversity Council News



You've Got Questions... We've Got Answers!

We received quite a few questions and suggestions this month.

One question asked if UOS would bid on the maintenance services contract at the Med School. Here's the answer from FMO Director Jeff Smith: "UOS has not been made aware of any decision by the Medical School leadership to re-bid any facilities maintenance work, currently performed by Johnson Controls. However, if they do reach a point where they make that decision and issue a Request for Proposal (RFP) to UOS, we would certainly give it with our full consideration."

A suggestion we received was that UOS should increase revenue by organizing and offering tours of the Harvard Campus. It's certainly an interesting idea, thanks!

Keep your questions and suggestions coming! Boxes can be found at: the Blackstone South rear stairs, Blackstone North 1st floor main lobby.

You can also send your suggestions/questions via inter-office mail to: UOS Diversity Council, 46 Blackstone Street, South Building.

Please Help a Co-worker

Custodian Mario Pereira recently lost everything he owns when fire destroyed his apartment. Fortunately, Mario, his wife, and their son were not hurt, however they had no home insurance. Donation jars can be found throughout Blackstone North and South, and at 219 Western Avenue.

Fine Indian Cuisine by Jyoti Rana

Cholay—Curried Chic Peas

Ingredients

- 1 can (14 oz) cooked Chick Peas
- 1 Medium-sized finely chopped/diced yellow onion
- 1 tomato (chopped/pureed)
- ¼ tsp ginger paste
- ¼ tsp garlic
- ¼ tsp turmeric powder
- ¼ tsp chili powder
- ½ tsp cumin seeds
- ¼ tsp cumin powder
- ¼ tsp coriander powder
- Pinch of amchur (dried green mango powder) powder
- ¼ tsp garam masala
- 2 tsp vegetable oil
- 1 and ½ cup water
- Salt to taste
- 1 tsp chopped cilantro, sliced onion and wedges of lemon for garnish



Preparation

1. Take 2 tablespoons of oil in a pan and heat it.
2. Add cumin seeds. Fry until they start spluttering.
3. Add diced onions. Fry them till they are light brown.
4. Add chopped tomato—cook for two minutes.
5. Now add the rest of ingredients including water except the cilantro, sliced onion and lemon.
6. Stir and cook for 7-10 minutes.
7. Garnish Choley with cilantro, thinly sliced long pieces of onion and a piece of lemon split up into 4 pieces.

The Turbines are Spinning!

Harvard University is now purchasing 10% of the electricity needed to power the Cambridge and Allston campuses from a wind farm in northern Maine. After months of construction, the Stetson Wind II facility went on-line this month.

Engineering and Utilities signed the purchase agreement with First Wind, an independent North American wind energy company, late last year which made Harvard the largest institutional buyer of wind power in New England. E&U also agreed to buy the Renewable Energy Credits (RECs) associated with the power. Electricity at Stetson Wind II is being generated by 17, General Electric, 1.5 MW turbines.



Milestones

New Hires

- David Adams—FMO—Plumber
- Jose Andrade—FMO—Custodian
- Franklin Arevalo—FMO—Custodian
- Angel Lopez—FMO—Custodian
- Rene Zepeda Repreza—FMO—Custodian
- Lee Gamez—Parking Monitor
- Joshua O'Neill—Staff Assistant III—E&U
- John Schanda—Operations Supervisor—E&U
- Christine Tafoya—Associate Biosafety Officer—EH&S

New Additions

- Craig Bradford—E&U—Baby Boy

Promotions

- Joe Pendergast—Energy Supply Program Manager

Get Well Wishes

- Mary Smith—E&U
- Blanca Hurtado Khodir—FMO
- Dan Hilly—FMO
- Glenn Fiore—FMO
- Mike Scioli—FMO
- Joseph Catalfamo—FMO
- Olga Guevara—FMO
- Tom Deluca—FMO
- William Cram—FMO