



Florida State University

ARF News Special Feature

August 2018



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

Grounds & Landscape

DEPARTMENT

Who are We?

Grounds and Landscape Operations is a division of Florida State University Facilities. We are subdivided into five general areas of responsibility:

- Athletic Fields Maintenance
- Grounds Maintenance
- Landscaping & Nursery
- Outdoor & Mall Amenities
- Solid Waste & Recycling

The general mission and goals of the Florida State University Grounds and Landscaping Operations is to consistently maintain a safe, clean, sustainable and attractively landscaped environment for the students, faculty, and staff of our institution.

It is our desire to transform our campus into an arboretum. An arboretum is a place where trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants are grown for scientific and educational purposes. Plants are maintained, labeled, cataloged and mapped. Each arboretum is unique, due to the characteristics of the setting, the collections, and the research and educational goals.

The mission of the Florida State University Arboretum is to preserve the stately historic campus landscape, to build upon the diversity of the collection with sustainable species, and to reinforce the aesthetic character of the campus. It seeks to provide visitors with a broader understanding of the campus landscape and promote long-term stewardship of the environment.

Grounds Maintenance Division



The Grounds Maintenance division of FSU's Grounds department manages over 574 acres of land. Tasks that we perform include mowing, edging, leaf and debris removal, mulching, weeding, planting, pruning, and special landscape projects.

We have an irrigation crew that installs and maintains campus irrigation systems. We have a tree crew that performs tree removal and limb pruning to ensure safety and good tree health.

Landscaping and Nursery Division



The Landscaping and Nursery division of Grounds at FSU maintains over 1/4 acre of flower beds—planting, weeding, and mulching to give our campus bright color accents.

We plant trees, shrubs, groundcovers, annuals and perennials to add to the beauty of our surroundings. We also maintain a holding area (nursery) for new plant materials and transplants.

Outdoor and Mall Amenities



Like many universities around the world, FSU has a sizable investment in the art on campus. Our sculptures, in particular, are very important to our FSU history, but will deteriorate and be lost if they are not appropriately maintained. Even bronze will suffer from neglect and deteriorate if not taken care of correctly. The FSU Grounds Department has a Mall and Outdoor Amenities division to provide maintenance on a routine basis to the sculptures on campus. This crew also has the responsibility of maintaining all mall amenities on a periodic basis which includes picnic tables, benches, trash cans, recycle containers, bollards, etc.



Robert Scott Cisson, ASLA

Director of Grounds & Landscape Operations

Scott Cisson has been with FSU Grounds since 2008. He provides oversight and direction of the Grounds Maintenance, Landscaping, Solid Waste Management and Athletic Grounds operations. He plans and coordinates the grounds/landscaping services needed for new construction and renovation plans. He develops and implements policies and procedures to establish constraints and controls relating to the services and activities of the Grounds department. Mr. Cisson prepares and monitors the annual Grounds budget. He previously directed the activities of the Grounds and Landscaping at Arizona State University (1986-2008). Mr. Cisson has a Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Arkansas and 26 years of experience as a Landscape Architect.

Staffing Pattern for the Division

- 3 Arborists
- 6 Garden maintenance staff
- 5 Tree maintenance staff
- 3 Pruning staff

Scott Scisson Interview

In June 2018 I interviewed Scott in his office.

What are the most recent projects?

1. Friendship Plaza



2. Recycling Concrete



3. Speicher Tennis Complex entrance

The following photos show the improvements:



4. Labrynth between Psychology and Medical School Buildings

Scott Scisson shared that it is the first handicapped accessible one in the U.S. Also it is lit at night, making it more accessible.



5. Addition of the Master Craftsman Studio to the Division



The Master Craftsman Studio is a unique university auxiliary under the Facilities Department. We specialize in realizing the institution's creative desires for its campus. As an in-house studio, we work with a wide variety of university entities such as maintenance, grounds, planning, design, public relations, athletics, and academics.

We are a self-subsidizing auxiliary of the university, which means we generate our own funding. Students see a working professional studio and are exposed to the inner business workings from estimates and ideas, to installation and invoices. This format allows us great opportunities to demonstrate to students the confluence of creativity and entrepreneurship. This practice helps students see that their creativity is a powerful tool that can solve any problem.

Following are their areas of expertise:

- Architectural Glass - windows, doors, walls, tables, countertops, room dividers, sculpture
- Stained/Leaded Glass - colored windows, doors, walls, restoration
- Kiln-Formed /Cast Glass - Cast logo, décor, plates, bowls, jewelry, votive, vases, awards
- Bronze Sculpture/plaques - Life size statuary, busts, plaques, custom castings, reliefs
- Custom Mosaics - Tables, walls, floors, glass, tile, restoration
- Concrete/Terrazzo - Floors, tables, casting, countertops

- Mold Making - plaster, rubber, sand, foam, wood, silicone, glass cast
- Sign Making - LED, Glass, Concrete, Plaster, Bronze, Aluminum, steel, wood
- Custom Carpentry - Frames, shelving, boxes, plaques, signs, CNC router relief, Restoration i.e. cannon carriage
- Metal Work - Welding and fabrication with Steel, Stainless, Aluminum, Bronze, Copper, plasma pattern cutouts, water-jet designs
- Restoration - Glass, Crystal, Stained Glass, Metal, Wood, Concrete
- Design Consults - Brainstorm, drawing, modeling, scaling, layout, rendering, samples, prototype

6. Moving the Nursery

When FSU build the new Biology Building (King), Scott had the old biology greenhouse moved out to near the FSU Golf Course. The new road from the Airport will go through a major part of the greenhouse area, so it will probably be moved to Eisenhower St., near the new intramural fields.



7. Composting Project

Once the Nursery is moved, Scott plans to acquire a “large composter”.

It will be similar to the following:

INTERMODAL EARTH FLOW		1000 lbs – 1.5 tons/day	\$60k-\$90k	Parks & Resorts, Corporate Campuses, Equine Facilities	A fully automated in-vessel composting system that provides optimum conditions for hot, aerobic composting. The Earth Flow system installed in a shipping container for ease of transport.
------------------------------	---	----------------------------	-------------	---	--

8. Future Projects

- Moving \$100,000 of plant material from the old Student Union site to Langford Green.

