



**BEHIND THE
SCENES**

**homewood
facilities operations
staff yearbook
2019 - 2020**

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about the authors.



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JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY

Dear Members of the Johns Hopkins community,

We are excited to present the first edition of *Behind the Scenes: The Homewood Facilities and Operations Staff Yearbook*, funded by the 2019 Diversity Innovation Grants. We believe the foundation to our institution's success includes the hard work of the JHU operations members: running the building systems and keeping interior/exterior spaces well-maintained for faculty, students, staff members, and visitors. This project aims to personalize each operations staff member beyond position title in order to give voice and recognition to the often underappreciated part of our research and education mission.

In light of recent events related to COVID-19 and the unprecedented changes the nation has adopted, we can only begin to understand the challenges this has posed upon members of our own community. We hope this yearbook will foster a sense of collectivity in a time of disconnect and be a source of small joys. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the JHU – Homewood operations staff for the work they do, and the three divisions operations leads of the Krieger School of Arts & Sciences, the Whiting School of Engineering, and the Johns Hopkins Facilities & Real Estate for making this project possible! Finally, please note that this was an entirely voluntary project and does not reflect the entirety of our facilities staff.

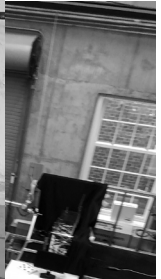
Hope you enjoy!

Best regards,

Yeena Yoon
Jenny Yoo

behind the scenes.





Jeanine Boyd



15 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“I like the nostalgic look of the campus. I think keeping this look on the outside of the buildings and modernizing the insides would be an appealing aesthetic.”

outside of work –

“ playing billiards!

at work –

“ overseeing the day to day operations in the Custodial Services department. Hiring and scheduling of staff members and supervisors.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“Homewood is a beautiful campus. It has a nice blend of city and nature.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“I love watching the annual fireworks and enjoying the Lighting of the Quads.”



Robert Ballou

“ helping to improve every day building challenges as they relate to the research mission of JHU.

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“The Shriver renovation. Long overdue and well worth the effort.”

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“More space for research labs, anywhere and everywhere.”



22 years with Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Working with dedicated staff trying to reach the highest goals.”

outside of work –

“ my latest hobby is amateur radio, something I’ve pursued in just the last few years.



Brian Brzozowski



“ ensuring that faculty, staff, and students arrive each morning to a clean, safe environment.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Walking around the campus for the first time and taking in the history of JHU.”

07 months with Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“I love meeting and working with so many different people.”

outside of work –

“ spending time with my family!



Chris Chrisakis

at work –

“ beautifying the campus.

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“Going to different departments and communicating with different members and staff on campus.”

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

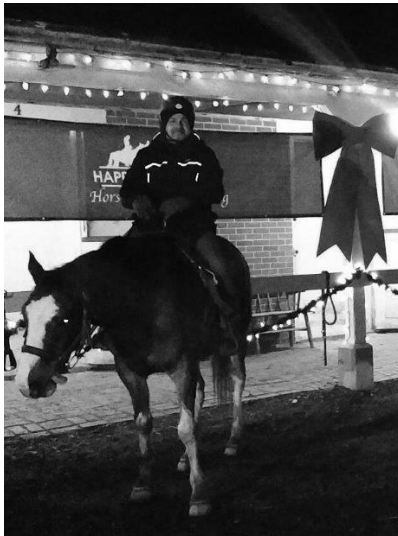
“Have different educational programs for students who don’t want to go to college.”



07 years with Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“When I got hired March 14th of 2013!”



outside of work –

“ having dinner with my girlfriend, bowling, fishing, vacations, spending time with my children and grandchildren.

Lou Danna



10 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“The boss putting on a safety harness.”

outside of work -

“ spending time with
my kids!

“ operating and
maintaining the
power plant.

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“My favorite part about working here is the people.”

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Nothing so far - Johns Hopkins University is a great place to work!”



Krzysztof Filip

“ working with facilities to provide assistance to all shops.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“I love the flexibility we have in our working environment.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“My favorite memories at Homewood are from attending the various facilities events.”



09 years with Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Work towards improving better communication between all shops.”



outside of work –

“ traveling.”

Brigid Gregory Trites



“overseeing waste operations and waste reduction programs.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“Interacting with the different groups of people (students, staff, and faculty).”

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Increase communication between staff and faculty to create more partnerships between operations and campus programs and classes.”

03 years with Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“It is split between the grand opening of the Hop Reuse Hub (HRH) and my HRH student employee placing first-runner up in the 2019 Student Employee of the Year Awards. I am so proud of the work we accomplished and how much furniture and office supplies we have diverted from the incinerator.”

“spending time with my daughter and husband, traveling.”



Eric Hoel

“taking care of work orders with excellence, of the campus with pride and concern for future generations who will be making contributions to Humanity and to the planet from this place.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“Being part of a University and the sense of purpose that goes beyond the ‘getting things done’ requirement of the daily job.”

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make JHU better?

“Develop training to increase the experience of Belonging amongst staff, bargaining unit members, and students.”



01 year with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Going out on the Gilman Clock Tower on a beautiful blue sky day and looking over the campus, and being filled with gratitude just to be here.”

outside of work –

“building treehouses and other spaces that elicit joy and consciousness expansion.”



Leana Houser



17 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“The day we were told Commencement was moving off campus! I will always remember how proud I was of our crew knowing that we successfully made another Commencement Zero Waste.”

outside of work –

“volunteering with my son in Patterson Park, and cooking at home with my family.”

“engaging the JH community to reduce waste, encouraging responsible reuse and recycling of materials.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“Interacting with so many different types of people and having the opportunity to make a positive difference in the institution and in individual lives.”

Q: What would be the one thing you would do to make JHU better?

“Better integrate different levels of the University staff so that we all understand the roles that each of us play in making Johns Hopkins successful.”



Paul Jacobus

“**problem solver, question answerer, team player, conflict resolver, emergency / utility outage communicator, access controller, elevator registration obtainer, comic relief.**”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Working with Athletics and Recreation at the time, being a part of the 2005 and 2007 Men’s Lacrosse National Championships.”

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make JHU better?

“Install artificial turf or create a new ‘green space.’ Students, faculty, staff would be able to use it daily, host events year round, and put up tents without damaging the quad.”



21 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“My co-workers. While there certainly has been turnover in my time, the good-natured, hard-working, genuineness remains. Oh, and the Marilyn Monroe sub from Eddie’s Market. On French bread.”



“**movies, TV, golf, travel, New York Giants, Knicks, Yankees, Rangers.**”

Randon Johnson



at work –

“ helping to make the university look better.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“My favorite part about working here is being able to meet different people and work with them.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“I have none yet, but am excited for what is to come!”

09 months with Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“I would love for the university to be able to help those in need.”

outside of work –

“ playing basketball and hanging out with my family!”



Terrell Jones

at work –

“initiating service requests to get shop workers to fix the issues with buildings on campus.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“I love speaking to and meeting the customers we help every day.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

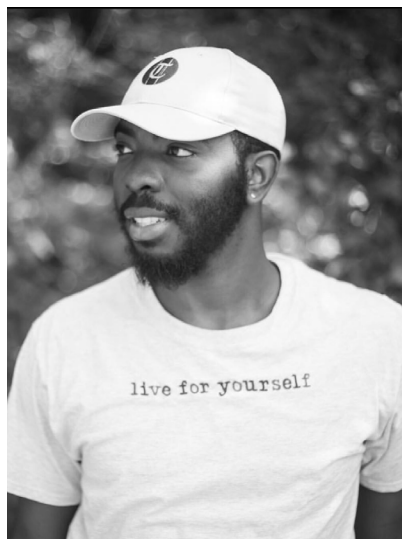
“I still remember the day I interviewed to get hired and officially quit my temporary job with Ranstad.”



2.5 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Have more food options on campus near the Wyman area. R House for lunch gets tiring.”



outside of work –

“drawing, playing sports, designing clothes in my spare time.”

Steven King



“ processing heating and cooling in buildings on the Homewood campus.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“I love the people I get to work with here.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“My very first day of work is my favorite memory at Homewood.”

19 years with Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“I would love to have weekends off.”

outside of work -

“ staying in shape!”



Charles Link

at work –

“ power plant operator, stationary engineer

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“I love working with my shift partner.”

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

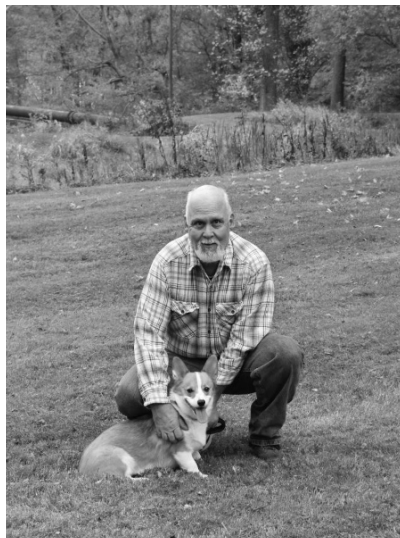
“It would be nice if we could have more small group tours of the power plant for students.”



1.5 years with Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“My favorite memory is my first scheduled power plant shut down.”



outside of work –

“ fishing!

Andrew Mabry



“ fielding and dealing with an array of facilities problems as well as organizing and arranging most events on campus.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“I enjoy walking around the campus and the many friends I have made here over the years.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Too numerous to mention only one... perhaps the time I won the quarterly employee award.”

15 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Move Occupational Health back on campus, we miss Carol Schopman.”

outside of work –

“ spending time with my family and playing music – I have recorded several records since I’ve worked here.”



Pete Martin

at work –

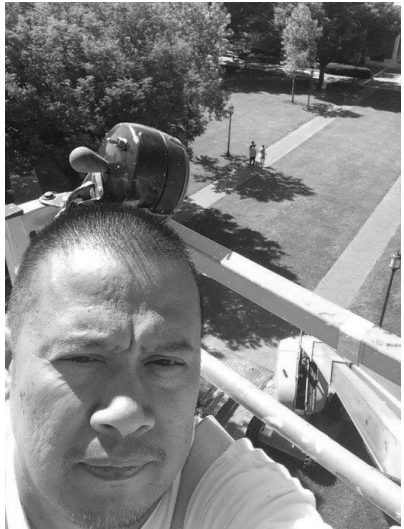
“ maintaining the interior and exterior of buildings and helping beautify this campus for our students.

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“The people on campus and shops.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“The league softball games with the departments on campus.”



34 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“I really think that the University is headed in the right direction and I would just continue to do my part as an employee to keep it going.”



outside of work –

“ enjoying my time out of work by spending time with family and friends.

George Martinez



“ just being myself, enjoying every moment inside this campus.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“My favorite part is the benefits that we receive as employees at Homewood.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“I cannot forget the moment I was first hired in June 2002.”

17 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“I believe training for Bargaining Unit employees should be compulsory, not voluntary.”

outside of work –

“ working out and hanging out with family or friends on a night out on a weekend.”



Ken Merkel

at work –

“overseeing the operation of the power plant.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“My favorite part about working here is the people.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Dave Eldridge.”



08 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“More money.”



outside of work –

“golfing!”

Mark Neal



at work –

“ensuring we are doing things correctly through policy and procedure, helping our campus community/customers, creating opportunity.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“The people are great. My co-workers are hard-working and genuine. Walking the campus on a sunny day is absolutely the best thing.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“So far, hearing the news that the Mattin Center will be demolished for a new student center.”

1.5 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Work to find a permanent and centralized home for the facilities team on campus.”

outside of work –

“traveling, watching movies, going to beaches, good food, friends, and family.”



Tyone Pompey

“coordinating projects and purchasing materials for the IT, Construction, and Planning Departments.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“I’ve only been with Homewood for a brief time, but so far my favorite memory would be being able to walk around and meet everyone during my first few days. Everyone was so welcoming.”

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make JHU better?

“None yet.”



04 months with Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“The work environment is extremely comfortable and welcoming.”

outside of work –

“dancing and teaching Hip Hop dance competitively and recreationally.”

Brandon Riley



“ensuring the university stay at a high cleaning level.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“Interacting with staff and students during big events.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Working during the Maryland vs. Hopkins Lacrosse game.”

2.5 years with Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Provide an activity area for students like arcade games, pool tables and bowling.”

outside of work –

“enjoying anything with cars, playing video games, and watching anime.”



Michael Ross

at work –

“ managing the utility plants operation and maintenance.

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“The emphasis on the work-life balance. Also, the sense of community.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Developing new relationships with the operations and maintenance staff.”



01 month with Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“It’s been so far so good!”



outside of work –

“ fishing, going into the woods with my dog, riding my four wheeler, and spending time with friends.

Brian Schriver



24 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Provide, redirect much more funding for building maintenance and improvements, and much less for dining, wining, and entertainment.”

“**traveling, camping, classic muscle cars, auto racing, or anything with lots of horsepower, and Ravens football.**”

“**coordinating all things related to maintenance and building operations, overseeing projects and renovations, and “other duties as assigned”.**”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“Knowing that what we do behind the scenes is critical to the success of the department and the university.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“The successful launch and mission of the FUSE satellite / telescope, June 1999. It was a very big deal for this department and JHU.”



Gregory Schubert

“ working to make things better in a number of different ways for others on this campus.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“My favorite part about working at Homewood would be the people I meet while working, and the people I get to work with.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“I love working different events with people from other shops.”



33 years with Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“I would like to teach others with my knowledge.”

outside of work -

“ fishing and going to the beach.”



Bruce Silverman

at work –



“ providing facilities support for buildings, ensuring operational continuity, assisting KSAS administration in various projects.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“The sense of community and the common goal of supporting students, faculty, and campus staff.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Meeting professor Thomas Dolby here on campus, a favorite musical performer from my college days.”

12 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Move the campus to a warmer climate!”

outside of work –

“ spending time with family, traveling, biking, golfing, and watching sports (Go Eagles!).”



Kenneth Smith

“repairing drywall, painting, upholding campus integrity and beauty.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“My favorite part about working here is the location.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“My favorite memory at Homewood was my interview day.”



01 year with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“I would like our campus to have more restrooms.”

outside of work –

“when I’m not working, I like to do games, play on my x-box, and be on my computer.”



Boris Steinberg



“ acting as a liaison between Chemistry, Facilities/Plant Operations, and others to keep the buildings in good shape and safe for our faculty, staff, and students.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“Working with a diverse group of students, faculty, and staff.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Being part of and watching UTL being built.”

15 years with Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Create opportunities to meet more people from across campus.”

outside of work –

“ being on or near the water, playing at woodworking.”



Larry Summons

at work -

“ maintaining boilers and chillers for Homewood campus.

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?
“Pray.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?
“None so far, but am excited for what’s to come.”



05 months with Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?
“My favorite part about working at Homewood is the power plant and my shift partner.”



outside of work -

“ teaching bible study for adults, going for long drives.

Lloyd Vaughn



“ compiling recycling service requests, delivering and picking up bins for large volume events... whatever recycling and composting needs you have, I do it!”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?
“Working independently, interacting with many people, and contributing positively to the environment.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?
“I wanted to impress my boss and he told me to collect all of the “dry floor” signs.”

11 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?
“Make it easier for people to move around and gain new experience and professional growth.”

outside of work –

“ running my own moving, hauling, and scrap business. My motto is “no worries.”



Ed Worthington

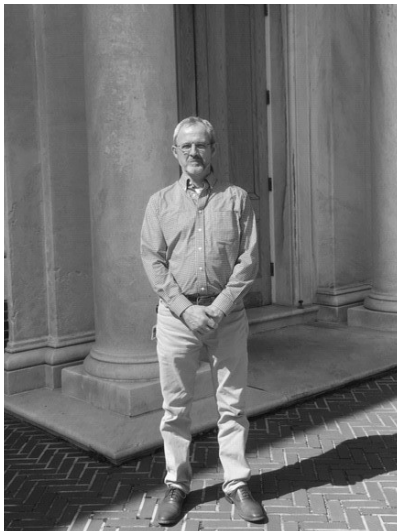
“ planning spaces, renovating, troubleshooting, procurement.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“The camaraderie, walking the campus, enjoying the landscape and classic brick buildings.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Meeting so many people, Wyman quad filled with students every hour when class changes, having the opportunity to see the countless research projects, chatting with faculty, staff, and students.”



08 years with
Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Hopkins is always improving.”

“ going outdoors, golfing, whitewater canoeing, Texas hold'em poker, home renovation, woodwork.”

David Ashwood



“managing University support teams charged with maintaining and operating our campus, physical assets, and infrastructure.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“I really enjoy the fast paced environment coupled with work we do to support the University’s mission.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Probably the holiday parties we threw at the Greenhouse back in the day.”

32 years with Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Build a facility to support all Plant Operations staff.”

“doing just about anything outdoors, especially golfing, fishing, and vacationing with my family.”



Tom Simmons

“ensuring projects are complete so research can move forward and providing people with the facilities they need to complete their work.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“The satisfaction of completing projects so researchers can do amazing things.”

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Completion of the 12 step move / renovation to bring the WSE Dean’s Office to Wyman Park.”



20 years with Johns Hopkins

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Have a swing space building to enable renovations to take place.”

outside of work –

“going out with Mary, my wife, on a Friday date night, and hunting fish.”



Ray Cho



“ supporting KSAS departments and programs on resolving issues related to built environment.”

10 months with Johns Hopkins

Q. What is your favorite memory at Homewood?

“Generally, I love walking across campus early in the morning.”

Q. What is your favorite part about working at Homewood?

“Working alongside all the hard-working and dedicated, yet, fun coworkers in all divisions.”

Q. What would be the one thing you would do to make Johns Hopkins University better?

“Look for opportunities to highlight the amazing folks working behind the scenes.”

outside of work –

“ spending time with family and traveling.”



behind the scenes.





JOHNS HOPKINS
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