MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 10, 2012
TO: Campus Community
FROM: Melody Maffei
Deputy Building Official

SUBJECT: California Building Code Requirements and Building Standards

Over the years Facilities has discovered areas on campus where departments were found to have performed modifications to campus facilities without notifying or obtaining approval through Facilities Services. In one case the modifications performed by department staff exposed hazardous material in the facility. This action required hiring a hazardous material abatement contractor to correct the situation. An employee painting the walls in their area to a personal color preference is another common infraction. Departments then have to pay Facilities to repaint them to the building standard.

The California State University is responsible for the enforcement of building codes as approved by the California Building Standards Commission. As the Deputy Building Official, I act on behalf of the CSU Trustees, and under the authority of President Shirvani.

The Deputy Building Official is responsible for issuing a written validation certificate for each project. Under The California Building Code (CBC Section 106) no building or structure shall be erected, constructed, enlarged, repaired, improved, moved, converted or demolished without a building permit (written validation) except those projects exempted by CBC, Section 106.2; e.g., fences not over 6 feet, cases, counters and movable partitions not over 5’-9” high, painting, on grade, and platforms. Projects exempted by CBC, Section 106.2 still require the approval of the Deputy Building Official. Work performed by departments without prior authorization will be corrected to comply with the building code and campus building standards at the expense of the department.

It is also important that any physical changes or modifications to State Facilities (i.e. painting, carpet replacement, change of door locks, attaching equipment and fixtures, installing or changing lighting fixtures, etc.) be approved by Facilities Services. This type of work is governed by bargaining unit contracts and therefore must be performed by Facilities staff in conformance to building code requirements and campus standards.

To ensure a safe teaching, learning and working environment it is important to first contact Facilities Services for all your planning, design, construction, inspection and maintenance needs.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact me at Extension 3211.