

## **MAPPA President Spring/Summer Message 2017**

MAPPA Members:

Most of us are now in that transition period from the busy academic year into 'project' season as we enter the month of May. It is truly amazing how quickly we can move through an educational year and then begin to prepare for the fall. Certainly a lot of challenges and good things to keep us busy.

Our MAPPA organization is no different. We are staying very busy with plans for the upcoming joint conference with CAPP in St. Louis, September 17 - 21. The theme for our conference this fall is GATEWAY TO BETTER FACILITIES. Due to the wonderful work of Maggie Hamilton, Brandon Baswell, Sarah Ely and counterparts with CAPP – an excellent conference is in store! The planning team is anticipating 100 business partner booths and at least 500 attendees. Registration is now open so you may go to the website at <http://mappa.appa.org/leadership/annual-meeting/> to sign up. I hope many of you will 'meet me in St. Louis' this fall. It promises to be a great time!

Please extend a warm welcome to our new President Elect, James Bogan, University of Wisconsin - Madison. He has rejoined the MAPPA Board in this role after some time away. We were pleased that James was able to step into this vacancy that was created when Joseph Han moved on to a new position at Central Washington University. He is bringing a wealth of experience from prior roles that will serve MAPPA well.

One of the Board's primary discussion items this year is the elimination of the Past President position and consolidating duties into other primary roles. This was something recommended by APPA and other regions have conducted a similar reorganization. The commitment for future MAPPA presidents will then involve a four year instead of five year cycle – starting as President Elect, President, APPA Junior Rep and then APPA Senior Rep. We believe this condensed timeframe will also lend itself to greater interest by members of our region to consider the MAPPA President's role.

Finally, certifications (CEFP/EFPP) and scholarship applications continue to generate a high level of interest in our region. The MAPPA Board set aside \$60,000 in the current operating budget to support CEFP coupons and scholarships for our members. I would certainly encourage everyone to take advantage of these paid offerings to get certified, attend an APPA Leadership or Facilities Institute, or to seek funding for first time registration at our September annual conference. The Board continues to recognize and support funding for the benefit of all institutional members in our region.

I wish to personally thank all the members of our MAPPA Board who are offering their time, talent and expertise for our organization. It continues to be a pleasure to work with each and every one of them.

All the best to each of you as we move into the summer and then a new academic year!

Tim Thimmesch, MAPPA President