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"Opportunities for Excellence" is the theme for the 2017 TNAPPA Conference hosted by the University of Tennessee, Knoxville May 15 & 16, 2017. The past year is now a memory and 2017 is not showing signs of slowing down either. We are all working hard to serve our campuses, address constant demands, solve daily crisis and support our facilities teams. As always, we rise to the challenge to do more and more with less and less until it seems we are trying to do everything with next to nothing.

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to renew your membership in the **Tennessee Chapter of the Association of Physical Plant Administrators (TNAPPA)**. Your membership allows you to network with individuals that experience similar issues and problems in their facilities. With tightening budgets, it is more important than ever to network with colleagues with similar problems across higher education facilities in our state, region (SRAPPA) and across the country (APPA).

APPA has countless training and educational resources available from seminars and institutes tailored specifically to Higher Ed Facilities, Supervisor Toolkits and Drive-In workshops which bring detailed training on topics directly to you. APPA provides you access to benchmarking data, publications, and industry trends, which assist in decision-making. APPA has Mentoring/ Emerging Professionals Programs and Professional Credentialing to help you train, improve, and retain your valuable employees.

TNAAPA membership provides substantial discounts and opportunities to help manage your day-to-day operations. It has never been easier to join TNAPPA. Attached is the membership form. Join today!

For more information about the upcoming TNAPPA 2017 Conference, visit our website at <u>http://tnappa.appa.org</u>.

Please join your colleagues and me across Tennessee in the best facilities tool available.

Dave Irvin TNAPPA President Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities Services University of Tennessee Knoxville