

LANDSCAPE MANAGER OF THE YEAR

By getting the most out of his personnel and equipment, Roy Peterman made the Brigham Young University campus a model of good management.

If Roy Peterman were a pie chart, he'd be made up of many different pieces. The biggest pieces would show his devotion to his wife and seven children, while his professional pieces would be pretty evenly divided between manager, planner, accountant, evaluator and teacher. As grounds manager at Brigham Young University, he put all the pieces together to become our Landscape Manager of the Year.

In five years he has streamlined his organization from 56 full-time employees to 38 while increasing their workload one-third. Still, his labor costs are 1/2 a cent less per square foot than the national average.

Still not impressed? Well, the next time you're in Provo, give him a call and ask him how many hours his people spent repairing sprinkler heads in the first quarter of 1988 (798.5) or how many minutes it should take to cultivate around a tree according to his time/motion survey (11 minutes). By pinpointing costs, Peterman has been able to effectively schedule and monitor the more than 300 total employees under his supervision with great detail. In addition, he has created The



Roy Peterman

Five M's Physical Plant Resource Model, which defines the responsibilities and accountability of all employees, from director to worker, within the department.

A *Capital Needs Analysis Equipment Replacement and Renewal List* is also in place that tells department heads what equipment is on hand, when it was purchased, what it cost and its life cycle. The system helps Peterman set up his equipment bud-

get early and provides an excellent method to evaluate the performance of each piece.

Peterman's artistry can be found in his description of a successful landscape manager, of which he writes: "...he will have a vision of our age and how he can positively enrich the lives of those who use the landscape by realizing that to create an attractive, ever-changing environment from living materials is the highest form of art."

Certainly the BYU campus is a testimony to his philosophy of landscape management. It hosts more than 50,000 square feet of flower gardens, 8,608 trees, 355 acres of turf and more than 40 acres of shrubs that are designed, in Peterman's words, "to ensure an optimum atmosphere for learning with peace and serenity available to each individual."

In the future, Peterman hopes to complete the requirements for a physical plant administration degree at BYU, write a book that offers a holistic approach to landscape management and improve the training capabilities of his department. It's hard to imagine him not succeeding in any of those endeavors.



Brigham Young University's sports fields undergo a six week renovation period where they're thatched, aerated, topdressed, overseeded, rolled and fertilized.