This year's Cornerstone winners for Distinction in Teamwork utilized the LEAN process to help them reach their goals. This team's focus was on streamlining and consolidating the University-wide utilities invoice processing and reporting procedures. Utilities invoices were being processed across campus with no central repository for cost and consumption data, which did not allow for University-wide reporting. This team found a way to change that. After learning the LEAN process, this team set out to identify and eliminate unnecessary work, materials waste, and unproductive activity in their day-to-day processes.

The team brainstormed and mapped out how the process could be streamlined. They discovered the Utilities Electronic Billing System (EBS) had the capacity to do much more than it was already being used for. The team found savings by:

- Utilizing the current Electronic Billing System (EBS) to produce new reports
- Receiving all utilities invoices centrally at IPP Finance. Eliminating duplication of efforts
- Utilizing the Kuali Financial System to automatically create a disbursement voucher cutting processing time in half
- Integrated with e-Builder
- This team worked with Utilities vendors to increase participation in electronic invoice processing by 17%
  - Not only does this save on paper, envelopes, stamps and processing labor, the vendor receives their payment quicker
- The team also developed a Business Intelligence (OBIEE) Dashboard for delivery of data to the campus – which can be used for all sorts of analysis

This team has really done a wonderful job at reviewing how they did their work, listening to customers input, and ultimately recommending and implementing substantial changes.

Having all utility bills processed through one system provides savings on many levels across the University.

This team was nominate by Kelley Yeomans