

# F. M. News

K. S. U., Division of Facilities

Newsletter, March 2014

## Ryan F. Swanson

Associate Vice  
President for the  
Division of Facilities.

Facilities received  
notice last year from  
Vice President Cindy  
Bontrager of  
transitions occurring  
within the Division  
of Facilities. Ryan

Swanson became the associate vice president  
for the Division of Facilities in January.



The memo read, “Swanson joined the University in September coming from Wake Forest University where he served as university architect and director of planning, construction and space management. Swanson is a licensed architect with LEED certification holding both a master of architecture and an MBA.”

Many folks did not have an inkling of who Ryan Swanson was, nor did they have a face to put to the name. Hopefully, this article will “assuage” some of the mystery behind our new associate vice president for the Division of Facilities.

He has tasked himself with reorganizing Facilities in such a way as to become more oriented to purpose. He will take on the role of University Architect, not just in the traditional meaning but also as a person who designs and guides a plan or undertaking.

Ryan Swanson’s re-organizational plan will consist of six groups;

1. Business Operations, which will include Payroll; Accounting; Procurement/Warehouse; Motor Pool and Maintenance Garage.

2. Customer Service, a central location where all service calls will come into, CMMS-Aim Management, General Use Classroom Scheduling, Central Mail and Post Office.

3. Planning, Project & Space Management, which will include all Planning, Project Management, Space Management & Archives.

4. Engineering, Utilities and Maintenance, includes Energy & Controls, Plant Management (Utilities), Preventive Maintenance and Building Maintenance. Swanson’s plan has campus divided into teams and zones, where the various crafts will cover maintenance in their areas.

5. Custodial, Landscape and Recycling.

6. Veterinary Medicine, including Custodial and Maintenance.

Change, as we well know, can be hard but when the dust settles, Facilities will be better designed to move ahead as campus grows and changes. But who is Ryan Swanson?

Ryan was born in Minden Nebraska, but grew up on the family farm near Wilcox, Kearney County, Nebraska. Wilcox is a small farming community, much like we have around here, where one can know or be related to most everyone in the community one way or another. His father and brothers still operate the farm (ranch and cattle operation) in the area. His family heritage is Swedish and German. His close family upbringing and family ties is what brought him to K-State. His wife

Rebecca hails from Alma, Nebraska. They have two children, Annika who is three and a half years old and Nels who is one and a half. Rebecca is a registered nurse and full time Mom. Ryan attended school at Wilcox and then the University of Nebraska. After receiving his degree, he worked in private practice for a while before turning his career towards facilities management. The last 10 years he has worked first with the University of Nebraska Kearney and then at Wake Forrest at Winston-Salem, North Carolina. He has a strong business and project manager background.

He studied a semester at London England, while in college. His working career has taken him to many international communities: London, England; Vienna, Austria; Venice, Italy and also Managua, Nicaragua.

His roots are still attached to his family and his Nebraska home. He has a desire to be the best husband to his wife and father to his children as possible. His goal in general is "Work to live, not live to work." Family is a very important thing to Ryan. Time off is often spent at the farm in Nebraska. His hobbies include snow skiing, downhill and cross country. He and his wife enjoy hiking and backpacking and camping. He also enjoys mountain biking.

Ryan likes to think in 5 year goals. Where will Facilities be in 5 years? He is hoping to streamline how we work and build us into a more workable entity. Welcome aboard, Ryan.

**You can never cross the ocean until you have the courage to lose sight of the shore. ~ Christopher Columbus**

## Who is New...

February 3, 2014:

Darin Tebbutt was hired as a G.M.R.T. Senior. He is working for Troy Bronaugh in the Plumbing Shop.



Tina Williams was hired as a Custodial Specialist. She is working for Beverly Price in the Custodial day crew.

February 10, 2014:

Alan Stevens was hired as Ref. A/C Service Tech. Senior. He is working for Travis Homeier in the HVAC shop.



Richard Eberhart was hired as a Custodial Specialist. He is working for Mike Price on the Custodial night crew.

February 17, 2014:

Ute Dock was hired as an Accountant I. She is working for Elke Warkentine in Financial Services.





Kathy Henry was appointed to an acting assignment as a Custodial Supervisor Senior. She is working for Renee Leask on the Custodial day crew.

Pat Lancaster was appointed to an acting assignment as a Custodial Supervisor Senior. He is working for Renee Leask on the Custodial day crew.



*My Piece of the Picture...*



**Lex Pearson,** Painter Sr., works at Dykstra Hall in the Paint Shop.



Lex has worked at Facilities for about eight months.

Lex works all over campus. He helps visitors find buildings. He gets satisfaction when he sees the final product.

When asked about the three best things about his job, he said, "I have an understanding supervisor, I am new and all the employees made me feel very welcome. We still have a great relationship. People we work for are friendly and happy to have us working for them."

He feels he contributes to the success of the organization because he is a hard worker and his supervisor keeps him busy, which means a

lot. "I have been a supervisor and it's hard when you have employees that just don't buy into a good work ethic. In my position I interact with the general public, students, staff, and others. I love that part of my job and I think that helps our image as Facilities. This is a friendly campus and my transition to facilities has been a positive one."

Lex feels that he isn't micro-managed, but sees micro-management as a problem in some parts of facilities.

Most people don't know that Lex is retired. He enjoys cigars and cognac once in a while. He feels that people and friends are very important. He loves to travel and Scotland is his favorite country outside of the US. His wife is a student here at K-State. Lex was born and raised here in Manhattan. "I personally know Joe McCullough from Manhattan High Class of 1981 (Inside Joke-ask him)."

**March Birthdays**



- 3-2 Su Maloney, Eugene Williams, Joe Myers, David McMullen
- 3-3 Roger Schneider
- 3-5 Anne Murphy, Clinton Grubbs
- 3-6 Marvin Childs, Michael Price
- 3-11 Dallas Hirsch
- 3-12 Misty Jamison
- 3-13 Ryan Swanson, Bill Stout
- 3-16 Melissa Krumm

- 3-18 Diane Wester
- 3-19 Thomas Bartlett, Daniel Boller, Darrell Nelson
- 3-20 Charles Kranz
- 3-21 Michael Ashcraft
- 3-22 Mike Salsbury, Shuang Hao
- 3-23 Michael Mongold
- 3-24 William Hynek, Harry Sender, Brian Morgan
- 3-25 Stephanie Brecheisen, Kelly Levinson
- 3-30 Douglas Ray, Christopher Fleeker

**K-State Classified Meritorious  
Service Award  
Congratulations Chris**



Chris Falley is an Electronic Control Center Supervisor at Facilities Utilities in the Power Plant. He received this recognition last month, along with the \$200.00 award. The nomination read: *Chris Falley, a newly promoted supervisor has shown amazing leadership within the past year. As a supervisor in the Power Plant, Chris was faced with single handedly running the operation at times. Our manager Delvin lost his wife this past year and took personal time. Our other supervisor Roger Hageman was out several months after a major surgery on his back. Chris was here to pick up where everything else left off, taking several months of being on*

*standby in a shop that runs 24/7. Managing our workforce of several “new hires,” our Power Plant continued to run like a well-oiled machine. Chris always took every task at hand and perfected its execution no matter if the odds were against him.*

Thank you Adam Cooke for nominating Chris for this honor.

**KUDOS**

**John Woods, Facilities Services**

*On 02/04/14 as the crew was going to the parking lot we noticed someone cleaning off the cars. That someone was Mr. Woods who had left earlier to go to lunch. Mr Woods helped us all with our cars in cleaning off the snow and he was still there cleaning cars as we were leaving. We as a crew would like to Thank Mr. Woods for helping us all out. Thanks !!*

Submitted by: The Hale Crew, and Facilities Services Staff.

**THAT SNOW WAS SOMETHING!**



Approximately 12 to 13 inches of snow fell on campus in a two day time frame February 4 and 5th, closing campus for two days.

Jackie Toburen, Assistant director of Grounds, gave us some fun facts to give us a perspective of the area that is covered by K-State.

**TOTAL ACREAGE (South of Kimball)**  
Approx. 668 acres

**TOTAL BUILDING (124 buildings on main campus)** Approx. 60 acres, 6,350,534 sq.ft.  
Also, 780 billion cu. ft.

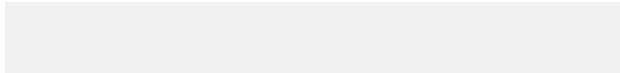
PAVED AREAS (buildings, parking lots, sidewalks, and streets) Approx. 199 acres  
PARKING LOTS Approx. 87 acres-  
3,799,203 sq.ft.

STREETS Approx. 32 acres-16 miles(linear)

SIDEWALKS Approx. 20 acres – 21 miles  
(linear)

LANDSCAPE AND GREEN AREA Approx.  
174.4 acres

That was a lot of snow to remove!



Support Services said  
Good-Bye to Debra  
Acosta February 21<sup>st</sup>.  
Thanks for your  
service Debra.

