

AVC Excellence: Daniel Beechler

Daniel Beechler is a Risk Management Specialist and has worked for FP&M since November 2017 and for UW-Madison since April 2014. Daniel is the liaison between Environment, Health & Safety and Biomedical Research Model Services. He is responsible for ensuring the safety of staff in the medical school's animal research program. Daniel's responsibilities include protocol reviews, facility inspections, attending weekly operations meetings, incident response, and outreach. He answers any questions staff may have and assists the staff so they can do their job safely.

Daniel believes "safety is caring about people" and his favorite part of the job is interacting with all the staff in Biomedical Research Model Services.

In his free time, Daniel enjoys running and playing rugby and volleyball.

Sixteen nominations were submitted in the categories of Customer Service, Going Above and Beyond, Teamwork, and Unsung Individual recognizing Daniel for providing excellence in services for our university community.

Nomination Quotes:

- "Daniel always receives great praise from members of the animal care staff. This praise likely reflects his approachability, positive attitude, willingness to help and his prompt follow-through on all matters from the most trivial to the most important."
- "I am continually impressed with Daniel's level of enthusiasm and dedication to the task at hand. He truly cares about the safety of my team and I'm very grateful."

Creative Solutions: Peter Armstrong

Since July 2016, Peter Armstrong has worked as the Commuter Solutions Coordinator for Transportation Services. Peter is the lead on the Flex Parking permit program, a pay per use parking program. In January 2019, Peter was assigned with taking the lead on a Flex auditing process. The audit recovered over \$40,000 in missed payments, improved payment compliance, and enhanced customer's understanding with the program. Both Dar Ward, for her operational expertise, and Jim Bogan, as the architect of the sophisticated audit tool, were also key in the process.

"Peter answered hundreds of challenging phone calls and emails with the utmost respect and patience. You would be hard pressed to find a customer that has had an interaction with Peter that they would consider negative"

Congratulations to Peter for increasing revenue and enhancing customer's understanding.

Above and Beyond: Maria Gutierrez

Maria Gutierrez has worked as a Physical Plant Custodian with Crew 106 for about twelve years. Maria cleans in five buildings: Bascom, Education, Ingraham, Radio Hall and Social Sciences. Sometimes Maria does special floor care projects.

Outside of work, Maria enjoys spending time with her two daughters and one son. She sings in choir at her church.

The nomination about Maria said, "I am so thankful for her initiative in taking on additional tasks, she clears off the coffee table in our reception area, empties out our coffee bucket attached to the machine and cleans the sink in the kitchenette. Last year she cleaned the microwave and toaster oven that I am sure had not been touched in years. She is especially helpful when Chancellor Blank has had a reception in the office or hosted a lunch and removes trays and garbage quickly. Our office switched to VoIP phones last January and she was helpful with recycling the old phones and taking the packaging to the loading dock. Also, we have been in the process of a deep clean of old files and storage areas and we have had more recycling this year than in the past and she has been very helpful with taking full recycling bins out to the loading dock. Twice in the last year she has come to the rescue on projects that we thought were hopeless. Our chief of staff has a large two-sided whiteboard in his office and his children had used a permanent marker on it, we tried numerous products to no avail and Maria was able to remove the marker giving him a clear writing space in the process. In the Chancellor's Office, ink had spilled near her work area and Maria was able to get the ink out of the carpet before it dried in place, unfortunately it was in a high traffic area and it would have left a large stain if Maria had not been able to remove it. We were so pleased with her reaction to taking care of it right when it was discovered."

Customer Service: Stuart Statz

Stuart Statz is a Journeyman Plumber whom has worked for FP & M since 2004. His primary responsibilities are to respond to all plumbing related issues within the Primate Center, 45 N. Charter St., Weeks Hall, Rust Schreiner Hall and the WIMR Primate Research Center Bldgs. /areas. In certain situations, he will also have to coordinate and work closely with other trade groups and building occupants.

Stuart has been based out of the Primate Center since 2007-2008. He enjoys the daily interaction with all of the Faculty and staff members in all of his assigned areas. He does not particularly enjoy being unable to get in contact with someone, waiting for answers or parts all which can interrupt or delay the completion assigned projects/emergency situations.

In his free time, Stuart enjoys relaxing Sunday afternoon in his favorite chair watching football.

Nomination Quote: "Primate is a very challenging department to work at, from noise restrictions to animals with infectious diseases, a wide variety of protocols must be followed to stay compliant. Stuart is never one to complain and gives his best every day. His work ethic and behavior is commendable and we cannot thank him enough".

Unsung Individual: Dale Kraus

Dale Kraus is a Senior Administrative Program Specialist and has worked for FP&M since January 2007. Dale is responsible for the oversight and management of the ventilation systems for high containment facilities on campus. He reviews the system reports to confirm systems are still performing optimally and responds to any system alarms for high containment laboratories.

Dale enjoys working with the people in the Safety Department and working with lab staff, lab managers, building managers, and Physical Plant staff. He also likes technology and enjoys keeping up with changing technology.

In his free time, Dale enjoys working on old cars and backpacking.

Nomination Quotes:

- “He always makes time to share his knowledge and is very genuine in wanting to ensure that our program grows and strengthens. He holds himself to very high standards of honesty and responsibility, he is someone that I look at as an ideal member of UW-Madison’s campus and community.”
 - “He brings true professional attributes to his duties and genuinely cares about delivering excellent quality work. Dale strives to integrate both an understanding of the big picture strategy and goals for our facility, as well as attention to details.”
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Teamwork: Project Crew 338

The project crew from Custodial Crew 338 respond to any custodial related emergencies as instructed by their supervisor. They maintain the overall cleanliness of Engineering Hall, 1410 Engineering Drive and the Camp Randall Sports Center (Shell). They provide annual floor care within their assigned buildings, including refinishing of tile and concrete flooring and carpet extraction. They assist with snow removal within their assigned areas. They report needed building repairs and report any suspicious activities or persons. They also help back up other custodians as needed if someone is off.

The custodians in the project crew include Rosalino Chavez, who has worked with the Custodial for 12 years; Ernesto Cruz and Roger Dote, who have worked with Custodial for 5 years; and Leonardo Orea who has worked with Custodial for 11 years. All four of these custodians like the variety of working in various areas.

The nomination about this project crew said, “I would be honored to nominate Rosalino Chavez, Ernesto Cruz, Leonardo Orea and Roger Dote for the Teamwork award. These gentlemen have worked in unison for 5+ years, (Rosalino) and Leonardo for 10+ years. Their commitment to their trade has not waivered, continuing, in my belief, to be well above industry and Departmental standards. All of them know the assigned areas within the buildings we are responsible for and operation of all floor care equipment. They all can cover extra assignments when shorthanded. They all have worked on special projects, at times with unexpectedly short and strict deadlines. They are all journeymen when it comes to floor care. These gentlemen continue to assist with the continued training of new and existing staff on new procedures, equipment and reminders of existing protocols. They all have assisted with interpretation when appropriate. This past year, these gentlemen provided annual floor care to all accessible rooms within 1410 Engineering Drive, Engineering Hall and the Shell which I never thought possible.”

Special Recognition:

In February, during 26 degrees below zero temperature, four Physical Plant staff worked together to fix an exhaust fan on the roof of the Primate Annex Building.

Derick Babler has worked for six years as an Information System Business Automation Analyst Senior with the Direct Digital Control Shop to service controls on heating, ventilation, and air conditioning equipment and on metering and lighting controls. Kevin Corcoran has worked with the Steamfitters Shop for a year and a half. Karl Trawicki has worked with the Steamfitters Shop for eight years. Both Kevin and Karl are service truck steamfitters, maintaining and repairing heating, ventilation and air conditioning equipment--mostly in specific buildings assigned to them. Electrician Nick Yaun has worked with the Physical Plant Electric Shop for fifteen years and assists the Direct Digital Control Shop with repairing controls on equipment.

The nomination said: “(They) came in while campus was closed for the polar vortex. Primate Annex lost exhaust fan 4. It was discovered that exhaust fan 4 had broken off its mounts and was tipped over on the roof. The exhaust dampers for the other three fans were basically all frozen and the actuators were broken as well. This team worked diligently OUTSIDE on the roof top in sub zero weather for most of the day thawing out the dampers and replacing the broken actuators. They did not stop until the project was complete and we had the air handler back on line. The air handler serves animal holding space and is considered critical.”