



Mike Davis, the Director of Facilities Management, is retiring after 27 years of service to James Madison University. We would like to take this opportunity to highlight his time at JMU and thank him for the many contributions he has made. This issue of the newsletter is dedicated to him.

Mike's successful journey at JMU began in 1986. He was working in Waynesboro as a maintenance director for a training academy for the Department of Corrections. When the academy moved to Richmond, Mike seized a job opportunity as a Planner Scheduler for Facilities Management. He was the first Planner Scheduler that FM ever hired. He was only in this position for two to three months before being moved to the Engineering Department to fill the need for a construction project manager. Mike became the manager of the Engineering Department in 1994 and continued in this position until he became the Director of Facilities Management in October of 2000.



Immense change has taken place during Mike's time at JMU. The campus has grown extensively, nearly doubling in size. The only JMU building on the east side of the interstate was the Convocation Center. In 1986, FM was situated in a former chicken hatchery beside the train tracks, close to where the House-keeping modular is currently located. The building included four to five offices, a few shops and a small garage. Another major change has been in the number of Facilities Management's staff, growing from approximately 200 to close to 600 employees.

Change has not just been in size, but in terms of how FM operates. When Mike began as Director, the shops were divided according to how they were funded. Each shop had an E&G and an auxiliary supervisor. The move was made to revert back to the original shop structure, with a complete re-organization that included adding the leadership of associate directors for Operations, Engineering, and Business Services. All work orders performed by the shops were processed by hand and were all reactionary, with no scheduling or planning. Now, thanks to the direction of dedicated and knowledgeable staff, JMU is now one of the leading universities in the country in terms of electronic maintenance management.

Mike's tenure as FM director has not been without challenges. The greatest overall challenge has been planning for and meeting the demands of vast campus expansion. Mike is particularly proud that FM has been able to maintain the campus to very high standards while utilizing less staff than do most other universities. He credits this to FM employees' strong work ethic and taking pride in what they do. JMU FM has been recognized by numerous on and off campus customers, along with our peers for many of our accomplishments performed by our staff, including landscape and recycling awards, LEED accreditation, and peer recognition for our high quality standards and efficiencies. Challenges, although stressful at times, have made Mike's job rewarding and interesting. "Every day is certainly different!" In addition to the various challenges, Mike has also enjoyed the many relationships he has developed through the years. Despite the growth in the number of Facilities Management staff, he still considers FM to be one great big family. As he prepares to retire and spend more time with his two grandchildren, Mike would like to express his gratitude to his "work family". Mike is not aware of anyone in FM who has *not* given 100%. He credits the wonderful ongoing success of Facilities Management to the dedication of its staff, as well as the support given by Towana Moore and Charlie King.

Congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for a wonderful retirement!

Remarks and Best Wishes for Mike Davis

Mike,

Congratulations on your retirement. It's been a long time coming. You can leave JMU knowing you did a good job and made a difference. You're leaving things better than you found them.

Enjoy your retirement...relax and do some fun things.

Dave Mars

Dear Mike,

There are so many ways to remember your service to James Madison University. All one has to do is look around this campus. The construction, care and maintenance of our facilities bear your signature. The work ethic, quality of service, and supportive attitude of our staff is a reflection of your own commitment. You have crafted something very special at JMU – an environment that is the envy of literally thousands of other institutions of higher learning. What better place could there be to live, work and learn? We are indebted to you! Thank you, Mike.

Lin

Linwood H. Rose
President Emeritus

Mike,

Thanks to your leadership and commitment, JMU's Facilities Management is recognized by its peers as a benchmark for them to achieve. We will use these measures to continue our growth in the future. Carpe Emeritus (Seize Retirement)! But know that you will be missed.

Duane Swanson

Mike's position as Director of Facilities Management is one of the most challenging positions on campus due to the many departments that make up Facilities Management, the number of employees, and the expectations of senior leadership for maintaining the campus at the highest level. Mike has performed this role with a high degree of energy, dedication, commitment and loyalty. Many projects that improved the JMU campus are a direct result of Mike's direction and supervision. On a very personal note, I will miss Mike as a KEY MEMBER of my administrative team. I consider him a good friend and I will miss seeing him on a daily basis.

Mike, congratulations on your retirement and best wishes on this new chapter of your life. You can retire knowing that you truly made a difference at JMU. I hope you are as proud of your accomplishment as I am.

Charlie King

I learned from Mike Davis that you take caution to do what you say and say what you mean.

My office began a new practice of posting a notice when we were out of the office. The posting included my cell phone number, so I could be reached for urgent matters when away. Unfortunately, I forgot that my phone was on silent one afternoon. You can imagine how devastated I was when I checked my messages and discovered that Mike Davis... the FM Director... had been unable to reach me amid a crisis! He said he had an "Emergency" and that he was calling the phone number listed on the posting to get assistance. He explained that he wasn't quite sure what to do since I wasn't available to help him avert this certain disaster! I listened to his message intently while my mind raced with self-criticism. Finally, he stated the reason for his call of distress.... His pet cow was on the loose!

I am grateful that Mike knew how to make work more enjoyable through laughter. Happy Retirement, Mike! Might I suggest that during your spare time, put the skills you acquired from JMU to build a stronger fence to secure your pet cow!?

Michelle Small

FM Buildings Through the Years



 **FM Snapshots - Graduation Preparation**



(L-R): Kevin Lessington, Ivor Findlay, Julie Ruebush, Duane Swanson, Mike Davis, Tim Lam, Frank Lucas



Landscaper, Kenton Dove



Housekeepers, Starr Dofflemeyer and Patsy Delawder

News from JMU IT:

We have changed how eligible faculty and staff can acquire a copy of Microsoft Office for a personally-owned computer. Instead of the "Work at Home" program that allowed faculty/staff to purchase media through the JMU Bookstore, we are now participating in the "Home Use Program" that allows online ordering and downloading of Office.

For more info, please see <http://www.jmu.edu/computing>

Click the "Software" link, then see "Microsoft Office for Personal Use" in the Faculty/Staff section.

GED Program

JMU has a GED class that meets every Friday that the University is open. If you never received your high school diploma and would like to work on it, this is your opportunity. The classes have an instructor but are self-paced. Once you sign up, employees are expected to attend class every week unless extenuating circumstances prevent attendance. The GED program meets in room 102 of the University Services Building from 10:30am to 1:30pm each week. If interested, please discuss this with your supervisor and contact Brett Sinclair (8-4535) for more information or to sign up.



Banquet Committee Announcements:

- Ham, roast beef, and pork sandwich sales will be Wednesday, June 19 at noon in the hallway in front of the USB lunchroom.
- Ice cream sales are Tuesdays and Thursdays in the hallway in front of the USB lunchroom at noon and possibly 9 a.m.

FM Birthdays for June

Cheryl Smith 6/3	Bill Bauer 6/4	Miranda Coleman 6/4	Dan Adkins 6/5	Rebecca May 6/6
Natalie Shifflett 6/6	Betty Shifflett 6/6	Shirley Comer 6/7	Steve Lackner 6/8	Julia Huffman 6/11
Bobby Morris 6/11	Gerard Smith 6/11	Katharine Wright 6/11	Michael Botkin 6/12	Eric Jenkins 6/12
Brittany Eppard 6/13	Shirley Foley 6/13	Crystal Hartman 6/13	Jesse Lam 6/13	Christina Leigh 6/13
Jessica Ritchie 6/15	Cody Wood 6/18	Robert Hume 6/20	Dale Moyer 6/20	Charlie Lucas 6/21
Glenn Shover 6/21	Linda Long 6/24	Michael Reedy 6/24	Shirley Shoemaker 6/24	John Whiteside 6/24
Jennifer Comer 6/26	Cynthia Shifflett 6/26	Robert Brooks 6/27	Robert Weese 6/27	Melissa Mayhew 6/28
Gary Shears 6/29	Tom Barr 6/30			