



ENERGY MANAGEMENT & BUILDING SCIENCE

De Anza EM & BS Students Complete IFMA’s Essentials of Facility Management Program

Published on July 13, 2016 [Jack H Hackett](#) IFMA Foundation



Please join us in congratulating the 10 De Anza College students who just completed the first ever Essentials of Facility Management Program to be offered in the California Community College system.

The De Anza College Essentials of FM pilot program was accomplished through the collaboration of the State of California Community Colleges “Doing What Matters for Jobs and the Economy”, De Anza College, IFMA Silicon Valley Chapter, the IFMA Foundation, the Northern California GWI Committee and CBRE.

The formula for success was well thought out and executed; Classroom Instruction + Networking with IFMA Members + Facility Tours = Internships and Jobs.

When you hear the word “college students” most automatically think of young adults fresh out of high school but in the community college system many are transitioning adults looking to upskill or change career paths. The students who participated in the De Anza College Essentials of FM program represented a diverse demographic and have work experience and previous education that prepared them for a career in facility management.



Classroom Instruction- The IFMA Silicon Valley Chapter Board voted in January to designate scholarship funds to pay for the costs of the program and under the direction of Jim Zuiderhoek, IFMASV Chapter President and Bill Roeder, Program Director and Instructor at De Anza College, the Essentials of Facilities Management (EOFM) course was incorporated into an existing Energy Management and Building Science curriculum. Students who completed the course received 3 credits.

CBRE through the leadership of Luis Morejon, Senior Managing Director - Divisional Director West Division, provided matching funds as well as mentoring and networking opportunities.

IFMA Master Instructor Larry Morgan provided the classroom instruction and Christian Pellicchia, IFMASV Professional Development Co-Chair acted as Course Administrator.

The classes were held at the Kirsch Center for Environmental Studies building. The Kirsch Center is the lead demonstration building for energy innovation and sustainability in the California Community College system, rated as the first community college LEED Platinum building in the nation.

The Kirsch Center was conceived and is operated by De Anza faculty, staff and students, with the philosophy that this facility is "a building that teaches about energy, resources and stewardship."

In order to receive the 3 credits, students were required to attend 25 hours of classroom instruction over 5 consecutive Fridays, April 29th through June 3rd. De Anza College requires a 3 credit course total of 36 hours so the students were required to attend an additional 11 hours of offsite course time including participating in three IFMA Silicon Valley Chapter monthly membership meetings and a facility tour.



Networking with IFMA Members- Many IFMASV Members from the Professional and Associate side volunteered their time to visit the classroom and engage the students about what it means to be in the FM profession and discuss the opportunities being an IFMA Member offers. The students attended 3 Chapter Meetings as part of the course curriculum. One of the things that stood out the most with the students was that the IFMASV Chapter meeting topics were the same as what they are learning in the classroom.

Bill Roeder commenting on the student’s participation at IFMASV Chapter meetings stated;

“I want to thank you once again for your tremendous hospitality at the SV Chapter meeting last evening at Rocket Fuel. What an amazing evening filled with camaraderie, networking, education, good food and drink, hockey in the background and ROBOTS!!!!- How cool is that!

The guest speakers were also incredible and are focused in an area that we at De Anza can relate to as part of our curriculum - Smart Buildings. Rocket Fuel has an amazing location and all of the presentations including the presentation on Enlightened were really interesting.”

During the networking part of the Chapter Meetings students had a chance to engage “one on one” with IFMA Members and learned of the many career pathways that are available in the facility management profession.



Facility Tours- Facility Tours were a key component to exposing students to the FM world and CBRE reached out to two of its customers to host a combined facility tour. Agilent and Keysight Technologies are located only 5 minutes from De Anza College but the students would probably never have had the opportunity to visit the sites had it not been for this program.

Bill Roeder thanked CBRE, Agilent and Keysight Technologies for offering a combined tour of their facilities in an email stating;

“Jack Bolton, CBRE Facility Manager at Keysight Technologies, really went above and beyond with the introductory meeting starting with Mike Viskovich, VP Real Estate & Workplace Solutions at Keysight, addressing the group. He was very open and personable, spending almost 30 minutes with the group sharing his experiences, background, advice, and a few movie recommendations. Bart Gant, Global Sourcing Manager at Keysight also addressed the group with his start in FM and some great information. Additionally Scott Gibson, Senior EHS Specialist at Agilent gave a great snapshot of the scope of his responsibilities, challenges, and the variety of topics he touches in a day. Wen Crane, CBRE Space Manager at Agilent spoke to the group about space planning, challenges with change management, and logistical hurdles with large projects.”

Bill went on to say *“The engagement of the students in this process was very good. They asked questions the entire time and probed into things discussed in the classroom with Larry the past three weeks. They received some real good exposure and advice regarding the role of FMs and space planners, what they do, and what a typical day is like.*

We could not have asked for a better day and group of FM experts willing to share their knowledge and pay it forward.”



Internships and Jobs - Deanna Cistone, IFMASV Chapter Membership Director and incoming 2017 Chapter President worked to secure additional funds to offer the 10 students a one year Chapter Membership and the opportunity to join the Chapter’s EFP (Emerging Facility Professional) group. By providing the students with a Chapter Membership it will encourage them to continue their pursuit of FM as a Career Choice and hopefully lead them towards obtaining their FMP Certification.

The IFMASV Chapter created an Internship and Jobs Committee. Headed by Jennifer Olsen, IFMASV Chapter Past President, weekly meetings were held to discuss strategies on communicating to IFMASV Members the opportunity to offer the students internships and jobs. During IFMASV Chapter meetings announcements were made, De Anza College accessed the IFMA Jobnet website

CBRE and Keysight Technologies invited students to sign up on their internship and jobs websites. IFMASV Chapter sponsor companies like DFS Green, Google, IMPEC Group, Kitchell Facilities Management and Western Allied just to name a few are all rising to the occasion.

The internship and jobs placement process are currently being finalized and will be updated on in a follow-up post.

The De Anza College Essentials of FM pilot success was a result of incredible collaboration and the lessons learned will help develop a template that will compliment additional Facility Management education opportunities throughout California and across the county.



Paving the Way for a Statewide Initiative- Jim Caldwell, Statewide Director and Sector Navigator at California Community Colleges “Doing What Matters for Jobs and the Economy” has been leading the California initiative to implement Facility Management curriculum into the community college system.

Later this month Jim Caldwell will be facilitating a Facility Management Solutions Workshop in Southern California. The “Building Southern California’s Facility Management Talent Pipeline” workshop will be held at Chaffey College’s InTech Center in Fontana and is being sponsored by the IFMA Foundation, San Bernardino County Economic Development Agency and the California Community Colleges.

The workshop invitation states “Recent research shows an annual shortage of 3,200 qualified Facility Managers in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. This workshop offers participants the opportunity to shape education and training programs that will bridge the gap through courses at California’s Community Colleges.”

The vision is that Facility Management would become part of mainstream community college degree programs to develop the statewide scale necessary to bridge the supply/demand gap...would scale from two pilot programs to as many as 20 California community colleges and 1,000 new Facility Managers annually through degree programs. Additionally, the colleges would implement customized programs to assist incumbent workers to gain the skills and knowledge required for transition into Facility Management jobs.

Jim Caldwell states *“I think the real news here is that IFMA, IFMA Foundation, and multiple IFMA chapters have partnered with the California Community Colleges to bridge a gap of several thousand Facility Management job openings annually in California. This partnership is paving the way for a statewide initiative based on IFMA SV investment in a pilot training program in Northern California and the Community College System’s investment in labor market research identifying the statewide need.”*

The IFMA Foundation through the GWI (Global Workforce Initiative) continues to promote educational opportunities like the De Anza College pilot and Southern California’s Facility Management Talent Pipeline Initiative. We are proud of and congratulate all those who make programs like this possible.

For more information regarding IFMA and the EOFM program, contact Bill Roeder, De Anza College Program Director and Instructor, Energy Management and Building Science program @ roederwilliam@deanza.edu or visit Bill in person at the Kirsch Center for Environmental Studies in office KC 241B-upstairs on the West end of the building. The EOFM class and internship will be offered at least once each Academic year.