

November 2009 - IFMA Sacramento Member Spotlight

Todd Bierbaum - FMP

For the past two years Todd Bierbaum has served as the Facilities Director for the Sacramento Universal Technical Institute (UTI). The two buildings he oversees are comprised of 268,000 square feet of Administrative offices, Labs and Classes. In addition to supervising several maintenance techs, half a dozen student workers, and the daily building ops, he is also head of the Safety Committee. During Todd's career at UTI he has overseen \$1.5 million in tenant improvement projects. As a result he has gained practice in the world of construction management; a challenging, but rewarding experience.

However, since UTI is a technical school Todd believes that his job involves much more than facilities, due to the fact that he is able to connect with students. He has developed a teacher/mentor relationship with many of the students and enjoys gaining their perspective on projects and topics. Todd feels that he is part of an organization that does something good for society since the purpose of UTI is to teach a trade that allows desired individuals to be successful within their industry.

A graduate of the Electrical Engineering Technology program at Purdue University Todd began his career in the Midwest. During his five years working for a firm doing component level circuit design he also helped out with their office leasing and relocation projects. It was at this point his interest in Facilities was sparked. From there Todd went on to become a Facilities Supervisor at Target Corporation Distributing in Indiana. It was a great stepping stone as it allowed him to utilize his technical background by managing the maintenance on the automated conveyor systems, as well as learn more about other aspects of facilities. Since then he has diligently sought out facility resources and education to better advance his career and knowledge.

Todd's thoughts on IFMA Sacramento:

About 3 ½ years ago Todd began searching the web for resources to expand his knowledge and education of facility management and

immediately discovered IFMA. He has found it to be the best resource to learn and collaborate with other facility professionals on advice and information concerning his facility and projects. Currently Todd serves on the IFMA Sacramento Valley Education Committee and is aspiring for his CFM.

Todd's advice for someone new in the industry:

Education! Learn as much as possible. The resources are there. Check out the certification program through Sac State, join committees, attend the meetings, and talk to people. "Failure is not an option!" meaning; there is a solution to every problem.



Little known facts about Todd:

When not at UTI or an IFMA program Todd spends his time with his girlfriend Shannon. They enjoy hiking and camping all over the foothills and Northern California. In addition, they have been hit hard by a travel bug. They currently finished a four week trip to Thailand. Next is the Greek Isles, New Zealand, India, and the list goes on . . .