

September 2009 - IFMA Sacramento Member Spotlight Trena Ellis - CFM

Trena Ellis is a people person. It is evident in her personality; it is evident in her work. For over 12 years she has excelled in her field of facilities and has come to realize that her role in the facility world is to not only maintain and improve the physical space, but also the personal work environments of its occupants. "I feel that my main role is to ensure that employees have a workplace that provides them the best employee experience." In order to accomplish this Trena and her team at Pearson focus on providing state of the art equipment, furniture and a comfortable work space that is in line with a "Silicon Valley" environment. And what such environment would not be complete without Ping Pong, Billiards, Wii, Ms. Pac Man and a greenbelt out back? Feels like home, Trena.

Overall Trena strives to create a fun, yet productive environment that helps employees achieve their goals. "I enjoy building relationships with all levels of the organization - from Executive to the front line." Trena feels that the relationships are critical to her team's success, as well as the whole organization. The challenge, as with any job, lies in successfully balancing day to day employee requests and planned action items.

Trena's advice for someone new in the industry:

". . . definitely build relationships with all levels of the organization and join IFMA for development and networking opportunities."

Trena's thoughts on IFMA Sacramento:

"IFMA has been such a great experience for me. It has helped me to network with fellow FMs and share problems and issues and learn from those that may have already had similar experiences. The IFMA website and monthly meetings showcase various development opportunities which encouraged me to take courses and test for my CFM."

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"I know in my heart that man is good. That what is right will always eventually triumph. And there's purpose and worth in each and every life." - Ronald Reagan

Little known facts about Trena:

Trena recently received her certificate in Green Business Operations from CSUS. From that she has created a Green Team and together they have implemented many "green" programs in the office, such as BYOC (Bring Your Own Cup) and a recycling program where proceeds benefit homeless children in the Rancho Cordova area. By making these changes her company has saved money in the long run and reduced the amount of waste going to local landfills. When not in the office Trena and her husband enjoy spending time with their church's youth group as they go on outings and keep them on the right path.