



JOHN THOMAS VAUGHAN  
LARGE ANIMAL TEACHING HOSPITAL

## Energy Engineer Rob Engle plays vital role in development of an emergency ventilator



*Rob Engle*

In early April, as COVID-19 rapidly spread across the nation, Facilities Management Energy Engineer Rob Engle joined a team from the Samuel Ginn College of Engineering to develop a way to quickly and inexpensively convert CPAP machines into emergency ventilators.

Continuous positive airway pressure, or CPAP, machines are commonly used to help people with obstructive sleep apnea breathe more easily during sleep.

The Auburn design, called RE-InVENT, is an accessory that repurposes a CPAP machine into a functional ventilator.

Engle spends much of his time in his job at FM focusing on the big users of utilities on campus, which are the chilled water, hot water and steam plants. He then uses the data generated from these systems to implement methods to improve efficiency.

When the opportunity to be part of the emergency ventilator project came about, he knew it was not one he could pass up.

"Prior to taking the energy engineering job in Facilities Management, I had considerable product design, CAD and design team experience, which allowed me to have a significant impact on the emergency ventilator project," Engle said. "Everyone on the team has been working insanely long hours, and I am proud to be able to work with such a talented group that is

striving to do something good during this unprecedented time of need."

"I want to thank Facilities for supporting me in this effort as I feel that I have to give everything I can to help ensure the success of this product and to help people during this crisis."

According to a recent article released by Jeremy Henderson, of the College of Engineering, the team's long hours and hard work may pay off sooner rather than later.

Huntsville, Ala. – based Integrated Solutions for Systems (IS4S), an integrated systems solutions company and defense contractor that frequently partners with the College of Engineering recently completed production of 100 of the emergency ventilators.

An IS4S team member and Auburn mechanical engineering graduate Ryan Hill stated that the company has "already received requests from a number of hospitals and will spend the week readying the current stock of RE-InVent devices for eventual distribution.

Learn more about RE-InVent online at [eng.auburn.edu/reinvent](http://eng.auburn.edu/reinvent).

## Enboarder software to help Human Resources engage with the Facilities Team



Facilities Management's Human Resources Department recently purchased Enboarder software. The goal

of using Enboarder is to improve the new hire onboarding experience.

FM Human Resources is currently working to build the system and hopes to use it with new hires in the near future, but for now, HR has found another use for the software – reaching out to and engaging with the Facilities Team at a time when we can't be together.

"Most Facilities employees have never worked remotely, and we thought this would be a great resource, as well as a wonderful way to stay engaged

with each other while we are physically separated, said Loren Allday, senior manager of Facilities Management's Human Resources Department.

All communications using Enboarder are sent out via text messages which range from videos to surveys and much more. Be on the lookout for texts from the number 202-410-8949 coming soon to your phone!

# Employee Communications for March 2020



## FACILITIES MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEE INFORMATION FROM THE OFFICE OF EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT

### General Announcements

#### Benefits Reminder – Healthy Tigers Wellness Initiative Healthcare Benefit.

AU Human Resources offers the Healthy Tigers Wellness Initiative healthcare benefit for employees who subscribe to the AU Health insurance plan. By participating in one free health and wellness screening per year, you can receive a \$25 discount per month for self-coverage OR a \$50 discount per month for self and spouse coverage on health insurance premiums. To learn more, visit the Healthy Tigers page on the AU Human Resources website or speak to a Facilities HR member.

### Congratulations

**Congratulations to Dalton Sconyers** for successfully passing the ISA Certified Arborist Exam! According to the ISA, “The ISA Certified Arborist designation sets you apart as someone with the commitment, dedication, and knowledge to succeed.” This certification will give Dalton the opportunity to progress in his field and gives Landscape Services a strong, knowledge-based Tree Care Team.

**Congratulations to Josh Conradson** who was promoted to Assistant Director of Construction Management effective March 1.

**Congratulations to Utilities & Energy** for passing 2 years since both our last personal injury and vehicle accident. Great Job!

**Congratulations to Maintenance** for passing 250 days without an injury. Great job!

**Congratulations to Oshia Cason** who was promoted to Tech, Infrastructure – Heavy Construction effective March 1.

**Congratulations to Anthony Stehman** for being the Maintenance Employee of the Quarter.

**Congratulations to the following Facilities employees** for receiving Core Value Coins:

- Heath Bryan – Teamwork
- Jeremy Kempfer – Teamwork
- Jody Martin - Teamwork
- Grant McDonald – Service
- Reed McPherson – Teamwork
- Darrin Moody – Teamwork
- Cedric Patterson – Professionalism
- Richard Pitts – Teamwork
- Wade Sharpe – Teamwork
- Richard Smith – Teamwork
- Joey Vickers – Professionalism
- Burke Wagoner - Teamwork
- Wayne Walker – Professionalism
- Wayne Walker – Teamwork
- James Welch – Teamwork

**Congratulations to the following Facilities employees** who received a cash award from the FM Cash Award Program for February:

- Jason Amling
- Cynthia Baccus
- Shanda Foster
- Amanda Harris
- Eric Moon
- David Morgan
- Chris Pruitt
- Anthony Stehman
- Stephen Stroud
- John Vollar
- Burke Wagoner
- Edwin Wood

### New Employees/Welcome

**Dillan Mask** – Tech I, HVACR – Zone 4 – effective March 1.

**Darryl Mitchell** – Tech II, Infrastructure – Heavy Construction – effective March 2.

### Retirements/Resignations

**Amanda Harris’** last day as Space Planner was March 6.

**William Maffett’s** last day as Campus Architect was March 27.

**Mitch Walley** announced his retirement effective June 1.

### Facilities Training

Contact for training sessions:

*Kathleen Jones | ktj0004@auburn.edu (334) 844-9411 | Building 1, Room 1173D*

*The training calendar can be found at <https://aub.ie/trainingcalendar>.*

### Employment Opportunities

#### *Landscape Services*

- Manager, Landscape – 2 positions
- Supervisor, Tree Care
- Tech II, Irrigation
- Groundskeeper II
- Groundskeeper I – 2 positions

#### *Maintenance*

- Tech I/II, Infrastructure – Heavy Construction
- Maintenance Engineer – Maintenance
- Tech I/II, Construction– In-House Construction
- Automotive Mechanic I/II – Automotive Shop
- Tech I/II, HVACR – Zone 4
- Roofer I/II – Heavy Construction

#### *Construction Management and Client Relations*

- Manager II/III/IV, Fac Project – Construction Management – interviews should wrap up in the next couple of weeks.

#### *Campus Services*

- Admin Supp Asst I/II – Work Management
- Manager, Mail Services – Mail Services
- Custodian II – Custodial Services

### Utilities & Energy

- Tech I/II, Plant Operations
- Spec II/III, Energy Management - preparing to set up interviews
- Tech I/II, Utilities – preparing to set up interviews

### OUA

- Campus Architect III/IV/V
- Space Planner

For more information about, or to apply for, one of the jobs listed above, visit the Auburn University online employment site at [www.auemployment.com](http://www.auemployment.com).

**These announcements are gathered by the Facilities Management Office of Employee Engagement. Submit announcements via email to Cynthia Baccus at [geercyn@auburn.edu](mailto:geercyn@auburn.edu).**

## Conradson new AD of construction management

Former construction project manager Joshua Conradson recently was named Facilities Management's assistant director of Construction Management.

Conradson replaces former assistant director Wendy Peacock, who was named director of Construction Management in November 2019.

In his new role, Conradson will have more responsibility dealing with various construction projects across campus while continuing to oversee projects through managing budgets and work orders along with overseeing project schedules and conducting construction meetings.

"Josh has been working as interim assistant director over the past year and doing a phenomenal job," Peacock said. "I

look forward to his continued guidance and leadership to the Construction Management team, as well as his continued collaboration."

Conradson joined Facilities Management as a coordinator of special projects in November 2012 before becoming a coordinator in the Office of the University Architect in July 2014. He then became a construction project manager in December 2015.

He received his bachelor's in construction management from Auburn in 2009 and a master's in higher education administration in 2018. He is a certified Project Management Professional and has been certified through the OSHA Safety Training Institute.



Joshua Conradson

## Mann and Wagoner awarded Spirit of Excellence



Gina Mann



Burke Wagoner

Facilities Gina Mann and Burke Wagoner were awarded the Auburn University Spirit of Excellence in January and February, respectively. The Spirit of Excellence is awarded to university employees who go "beyond the call of duty" to improve service, quality and the image of the department or university unit.

# Landscape prepares to plant 104 new trees in 2020

While the Toomer's Oaks are the most famous trees at Auburn, the university is known for many more than those two. From its collection of oaks, to its crape myrtles, tupelos and poplars, the campus is blanketed by more than 130 different species.

To continue the tradition of broadening the campus' tree diversity, 104 more trees comprising 20 new species will be added this year to further diversify the university's canopy.

"This year we are emphasizing species diversity," University Arborist Alex Hedgepath said. "Species diversity should be a critical feature in any urban forest management plan, and this will take us one step closer to increasing the resiliency of our urban canopy."

The university's tree diversity certainly has been noticed. Hedgepath and other members of Facilities Management's Landscape Services have pruned and planted their way to their 10th consecutive year of receiving the Tree Campus USA recognition.

"The Tree Campus USA designation is another way we prove our dedication to our overall campus tree care," said Justin Sutton, director of Facilities Landscape Services. "We continue to build our Facilities Landscape Services tree care team from what was just one employee, to as many as four by the end of this year focused solely on tree care operations.

"Trees are the backbone of our campus landscape. We love the large Heritage trees we have and are equally excited about the trees we are planting for the next generation."

Receiving the Tree Campus USA recognition is no small feat. An advisory committee must be created to provide guidance when dealing with campus trees in different capacities, and a campus tree care plan and program need to be maintained annually for work related to campus trees.

Landscape Services maintains more



*Auburn University Landscape Services' Dalton Sconyers helps plant a cherrybark oak in the campus' Garden of Memory as part of the university's Arbor Day celebrations.*

than 600 acres on the main campus, home to more than 8,500 trees. Those trees are viewed and used by thousands of students and visitors to Auburn every day.

Those same trees house an estimated four million pounds of carbon dioxide and remove thousands of pounds of carbon from the atmosphere each year, as well as pollutants like carbon monoxide and nitrogen dioxide, creating an environmentally friendly sanctuary in the heart of Alabama.

This year, the *Princeton Review* named Auburn one of 413 Green Colleges related to sustainability policies, practices and programs, and it is one of only 385 campuses named as a Tree Campus USA.

"If ever there was a time for trees, now is that time. Communities worldwide are facing issues with air quality, water resources, personal health and well-being, and energy use," said Lauren Weyers, program coordinator for the Arbor Day Foundation. "Auburn

University is stepping up to do its part. As a result of its commitment to effective urban forest management, the university is helping to provide a solution to these global challenges."

Each year, Landscape Services, on average, plants 100 trees, not including trees planted for capital projects, more than 1,000 trees over a decade. That's a lot to maintain, care for and check on each and every year, making for a decade of Auburn University doing just that.

In short, a decade of receiving Tree Campus USA is a decade of careful planning, intense scrutiny and hard work.

"Tree Campuses and their students set examples for not only their student bodies but the surrounding communities showcasing how trees create a healthier environment," said Dan Lambe, president of the Arbor Day Foundation. "Because of Auburn University's participation, the air will be purer, water cleaner and its students and faculty will be surrounded by the shade and beauty the trees provide."

## Editorial and Writing Staff

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## Photography

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FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

Submit Feedback to Trey Wood at [woodcas@auburn.edu](mailto:woodcas@auburn.edu)



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