

## JIM GLYNN

Jim's campus residence is the Power Plant, a UW-W facility in which few campus community members ever step foot, unless they work there or have specific business to conduct in that building. Jim has been with UW-Whitewater for 16 years and his road to the Power Plant was populated with other employment experiences that finally brought him here.

Originally from Platteville, Jim attended Southwest Wisconsin Technical College in Fennimore following high school. He earned a degree in Retail Sales & Marketing. That education, coupled with work experience at Sears, helped him land a job as manager of the Pamida store in Platteville. He held that job for a couple of years before venturing into the dairy farming business. Jim farmed for seven years and then changed career tracks. Before he came on board at UW-Whitewater, he dabbled in selling insurance for Massachusetts Mutual, and was employed with Schwann's, Red Baron Pizzas, and Orkin. In 1987 he accepted an LTE position with UW-W Stores. A year and a half later, in 1989, he accepted a 75% permanent position with UC maintenance. A full-time position opened up in Residence Life and he moved to Clem Hall. However, a few weeks later a better opportunity beckoned from UW-Madison and he went to work in the power plant at that university, staying in Madison for six years. A chance to move onward and upward brought Jim back to the power plant at UW-Whitewater in 1995 and he has been here ever since.

Jim was married to his second wife, Maureen, for twenty years and together they raised three children. Heather, their only daughter, is the oldest of the children. She and her husband, Jim, have two children – Max (7) and Fletcher (4). Heather teaches at Loras College in Dubuque, Iowa. Brian, their oldest son, is married and is an Account Manager for the VA Hospital in Madison. He and wife, Nicole, have three children – Ashley (12), Aiden (2), and Riley (1). Jeff is the youngest of Jim's children. He is a pharmaceutical representative for Pfizer, Inc. Maureen passed away six years ago.

Jim's main interest outside of work is a side business which he operates out of his home in Fort Atkinson. He owns and operates J & M Pest Control. The two jobs keep him busy.

Jim's official title is Power Plant Operator-In-Charge and the main thrust of his duties is to keep operations running smoothly and efficiently. His work shifts rotate and include nights, weekends and holidays. He is on call a lot because anything that may go wrong with the campus heating or cooling systems must be fixed immediately. He enjoys the work he does, knowing that he is providing an important service to the campus community. The difficult part of the job is that the shift rotations and on-call duties make it difficult to plan family functions, and sometimes prevent him from spending time with his family.

What Jim likes most about working at UW-Whitewater is the fact that it is so close to home. It is a short drive, preferable to the one he used to make to Madison every day. Regarding recent changes on campus, he notes that there have been a lot of wonderful improvements and there are some beautiful buildings that have been added to the campus. He grins as he confesses that he doesn't always have an opportunity to get out and about on campus. "We're like mushrooms here (in the plant) – we grow well in the dark." He laughs. Those who work at the plant do not stray too far. They have to keep a constant vigil to make certain that everything keeps functioning properly. Someone is always on duty or on call, 24-7. If he had to change anything, it would be to add more staff to help carry the load.

Jim gave us a tour of the power plant and it was easy to see that he is proud of the work the staff does there. He has seen many changes over the years and dealt with a number of challenges, including the explosion at the plant in 2008. He pointed out before and after pictures of that incident that still hang in an office area – a reminder of the risks involved for Jim and the other staff who work behind the scenes to make sure that our office environments remain comfortable throughout the year.