

FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

AT COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

FM DAILY
COMMUNICATION

March
11, 2021

Issue 106

Before becoming Associate Director of Operations in December 2012, **Sandy Sheahan** first joined Facilities as a student hourly in payroll/personnel in 1982. Later, she was hired in her first State Classified position as a “Typist A” and eventually Sandy juggled multiple duties and responsibilities in her role as a program assistant for Scheduling and Special Events—so much so that the Customer Services group of FM formed around her and became the vital unit it is today. After the department reorganized, Sandy managed Building Services and Logistics. Then after advancing through a very competitive candidate pool, she stepped into the newly created role of Associate Director of Operations.

Sandy chose FM as a career path when she realized she was attracted to the variety of services it provided, particularly the unique number of businesses and their interconnectivity. Sandy shares that when she started in FM you would only see women in what would have been considered traditional roles, i.e., administrative assistants, a variety of recordkeeping and data entry, but today we see women in a variety of management-level positions as well as many professional positions such as engineering, architecture, construction management, accounting, IT, etc. We are also beginning to see women trickle into operational roles within grounds and landscaping maintenance, trades maintenance, integrated solid waste, and custodial management positions. In the spirit of women’s advancement and growth, Sandy shares a powerful quote from Michelle Obama, “We’ve got a responsibility to live up to the legacy of those that came before us by doing all that we can to help those that come after us.”

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