

Exceptional custodian recognized with Star Award

by Vanessa Virbitsky - Monday, February 18, 2008

<http://www.uwosh.edu/today/481/february-star-award-given-to-unassuming-individual/>

From cleaning the dishes to finishing a homework assignment, there's nothing that pleases a parent more than watching a child complete a task without being asked.

Kyle Gilbertson, a custodian at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, must have very happy parents.

Gilbertson, who has been working in the Facilities Management department in the College of Nursing since 2001, received the February Star Award for showing initiative by completing tasks without being asked, using effective time management skills, and multi-tasking to get his assignments done and done well.

"Without complaint and a large smile, Kyle goes above and beyond his standard duties – and he does it while performing union steward duties as well," said Rosemary Smith, dean of the College of Nursing.

When Gilbertson was asked by Chancellor Richard Wells how he felt about receiving the Star award, Gilbertson referred to a popular MTV sitcom by replying, "I feel like I've been 'punked.'"

Gilbertson's surprise at this recognition exemplifies his unassuming nature.

"I do a lot for the University, so the recognition felt great," Gilbertson said. "But, really, I never expected it."

Smith, who nominated Gilbertson, can think of many examples why this particular custodian shines. A recent example of Gilbertson's hard work in action occurred before the start of fall semester when Gilbertson modestly picked up the slack of a coworker and waxed the floor of the Leach Learning Lab.

While this was someone else's work, "Kyle waxed the floors without having to be asked, without complaint, and while still doing his other duties," Smith said. "This is just one small sample of Kyle going above and beyond his regular duties. He is one of the most deserving for a Star award and it's long overdue."

It's in this spirit of enterprise that Gilbertson is the perfect candidate for the February Star Award, which includes a framed certificate, a reserved parking space for a month and a gift from University Books & More.

The award for exceptional performance is presented each month to employees who have worked at least six months at UW Oshkosh. To make a nomination, click [here](#).