Pictured with Vice President KyuJung Whang are Josh LaPenna, Bob Wise, Tony Page, Joel Bender, Scott Williams and Bill Richards.
Absent: Ken Lassey

November 2015
Bill Richards, Bob Wise, Joel Bender, Ken Lassey, Scott Williams and Tony Page

During the 2015 annual campus steam shutdown Bill Richards, Bob Wise, Joel Bender, Ken Lassey, Scott Williams and Tony Page orchestrated and implemented a critical phase of the Energy & Sustainability Department’s control system network upgrade.

The purpose of the network upgrade was to replace end of life Cisco switches in three key areas: the Central Heating Plant, the Combined Central Heat and Power Plant and Chilled Water Plant #3. In addition, configuration changes were made to local hardware at Lake Source Cooling, the Steam Condenser Building and the Kite Hill and Maple Ave Substations. Another key component of this project was to upgrade the network protocol from Spanning Tree to Multiple Spanning Tree, a protocol that provides network convergence 10 times faster than that which was previously installed.

During the months preceding the planned two-day outage, the members of this team meticulously reviewed system drawings, verified communication paths and purchased new hardware. During the limited days allowed by steam shutdown the team worked long hours and did whatever was necessary to ensure the network upgrade was implemented exactly as planned and without error. When direction was given to bring the plant back online, the control system was ready for the Central Energy Plant (CEP) staff to operate with a superior control network that is more fault tolerant and reliable.

The success of this project is a testament to the skills and expertise of all those involved, and exemplifies the IPP’s values of excellence and teamwork. This team is comprised of Cornell Employees from the Central Energy Plant, IPPIT and Facility Management. This is the beginning of continued examples of success from this newly developed “industrial network management team”.

Congratulations Bill, Bob, Joel, Ken, Scott and Tony