



Golden Nugget Awards – April 2018

Area 1

Eric Klee

Nominee's department: Academic Affairs

Reason for nomination: Eric is always looking for innovative ways to improve our systems and processes for students, faculty and advisors. He is currently in the process of launching a second usability study of the online undergraduate and graduate catalogs to find out how the layout and organization can be improved to help students and advisors navigate their curriculum. This approach to continuous improvement is a model for campus.

Brenda Shue

Nominee's department: Office of the Chancellor

Reason for nomination: Brenda Shue does so much on our campus to encourage others. She is always willing to extend her advice and expertise to fellow Administrative Assistants and Executive Assistants. She deserves to be nominated for a Golden Nugget Award for going beyond her regular job duties as the Executive Assistant to the Chancellor and Division Budget Manager. Just recently, she used her own time to mentor a fellow colleague. This colleague had just finished the ASPIRE certificate program and needed the type of career guidance that only someone as experienced as Brenda can offer. Brenda met with this colleague and even followed up with a workshop list to help this employee to get started on her journey to advance her career. Thank you, Brenda, for caring for your fellow coworkers and providing your guidance and expertise so generously to help another fellow 49er reach their professional goals.

Area 8

Lori Brown

Nominee's department: Energy Production & Infrastructure Center (EPIC)

Reason for nomination: Lori goes out of her way to help anyone who walks in the door. She stays late to make sure everyone is taken care of. She is an awesome friend to all and an important resource to all the admins in the EPIC building and the whole campus for that matter. She is an excellent employee, she is dedicated and loyal.

Jennifer Chastain

Nominee's department: Center for Precision Metrology / COE

Reason for nomination: While we all have had to pull up extra duties over the past years due to increasing enrollment with less support, one person whom I think has gone beyond the expected with a gracious attitude to make the operation of her work sphere a continual pleasant place to interact. Since she has begun her employment I believe that her job duties may have doubled in extent. This has not altered her demeanor as a very accessible person with a cheerful can do attitude. Her interaction with students is so amiable that a simple request to the graduate students for help in setting up for a reception is often met with immediate congenial response. It makes the work environment so much better when added burdens are met with graciousness. Additionally Jennifer has been hosting a foreign exchange high school student demonstrating that UNC Charlotte employees are willing to give back to the community.

Melissa Roy

Nominee's department: COEN Dean's Office

Reason for nomination: I would like to nominate Melissa Roy for the Golden Nugget award. She always has a good attitude at work and is extremely proactive. She is very happy to assist others in the office and College when they need some help with purchasing, travel, events, and other ad-hoc tasks. She is professional to faculty, students, staff--everyone she speaks with. She is also very involved with the university and frequently goes to training to stay up to date on policies. I can always count on her, and I know everyone in the office feels the same way.

Jane Stewart

Nominee's department: College of Engineering Dean's Office

Reason for nomination: Jane works tirelessly on behalf of the college. She provides a great example for the rest of the admins in the college. Her knowledge is endless and she willingly shares it with those she works with. She is a great friend and wonderful colleague. Jane never complains and never steals the spot light even though she is the real hero of the college.

Area 9**Terrie Burris**

Nominee's department: Financial Services

Reason for nomination: Terrie works as a payroll specialist for many different areas, one of which is student stipends. Our department uses stipends to pay our student trip leaders and Terrie is always on top of our payroll. She has gone above and beyond to make sure our students get paid. I am so glad she holds the position she does. She makes my job so much easier!

Area 10**Joy Finney**

Nominee's department: Benefits Department, HR

Reason for nomination: Joy in my eyes went far above my expectations in making sure I understood everything about my benefits during my 3 months of being on FMLA. She even took the time to explain everything to my wife which was very important since she kept all the information on my leave. The key here is when all information is on line now it is easy to tell people to refer to the web-page and if you have any question just call. This did not happen Joy took the time to explain each step in the process. It is this action that I believe my nomination for Joy is well deserved.

Area 11**Fred Brillante**

Nominee's department: Facilities Information Systems

Reason for nomination: I'm nominating Fred who was instrumental in establishing the Genetec CATS cameras in Police and Public Safety Dispatch. Without his tireless work effort, PPS would not have CATS cameras to view. He was attentive to PPS needs and made it happen in a very short amount of time. Thanks Fred for everything.

Tenille Dellinger and NiCole Lynch

Nominee's department: Facilities Management

Reason for nomination: NiCole and Tenille, our communications team, assisted me in editing and packaging the 33-page award winning Frank B. Turner Award submission honoring our associate vice chancellor, Mr. Philip M. Jones. Our leadership team nominated Mr. Jones for this award in February. I had one week to pull together the contents. I gathered nine pages of content for a submission that was to be a minimum of 1,000 words, but definitely not 9,000 which is what we had. I organized the information as best as I could, then asked NiCole to use her expertise in writing and editing to make the nomination flow. It took NiCole and Tenille most of the day to whittle it down to under 3,000 words. Everything was so good, it was challenging to determine what to omit. Tenille had an idea to package the submission with a cover page with Mr. Jones' photo, a table of contents, and putting the submission, articles, and 12 letters of recommendation all in one document. I would not have thought of doing that. It made the submission look professional and it was worth the effort and extra hours. We finished the submission well after business hours and submitted to the awards committee that night - just meeting the deadline for submission. I hope these Golden Nuggets will show them how much I appreciate their help and superpower talents.

Area 15A

Chris Facente and Bobby Robinson

Nominee's department: Automotive Shop - Facilities

Reason for nomination: On 3/7/2018 one of my employee's, Damion Nicholson, was having car troubles. I called Mr. Facente up and asked if he could help her after work hours to get her car working. He and one of his mechanics, Bobbie Robinson, said that they would be glad to help her out. They were able to find the problem and fix her car and she was able to drive home safely. Their assistance showed professionalism, teamwork, and sacrifice. They were willing to stay until the work day was completed to help someone who needed assistance. She was extremely grateful and so am I. This is very deserving and we both would like to say, Thank You!

Area 18

Sarah Pickel

Nominee's department: Belk College of Business, Undergraduate Programs

Reason for nomination: I've really appreciated working on the same team as Sarah Pickel. She has a unique role in the office that requires her to stay on top of all the trends and events for each major as she serves Honors and Scholars from each of the departments for the Belk College of Business. She jumped right into this role and went the extra mile attending some of our after-hours BHP meetings in order to better get to know the students outside of the classroom. They've already requested that she receives an invitation to the spring banquet! While registration can be a very busy time of the year for her, (especially since she coordinates group advising!), she has also taken on an active role in Belk Scholars and Business Honors Program recruitment and admissions. I've valued her feedback and participation in this additional job responsibility that she willingly takes on despite her increased work load. She's also innovative in her job and willing to try out new programs and initiatives. First, she created a new structure for group advising. When we began doing Strengths in the BUSN 1101 classrooms, she volunteered to team teach the honors course with me in order to give them not only a PD perspective, but also an advising perspective. She seeks out these opportunities and this positive attitude is not only a benefit to our students, but also has pushed me to work harder in my position. I think Sarah is deserving of this award for her collaborative mentality and her willingness to go above and beyond in the position. I appreciate her feedback for our program and I know our students are glad she has become a part of the BHP team. These students can bring in a lot of interesting issues and problems when it comes to scheduling and advising, but Sarah Pickel is ready and always follows through.