



## Golden Nugget Awards – August 2019

### Area 2

#### **Lora Bassett**

Reason for nomination: Lora has always pays attention to the needs of others in the office. She is has been helpful in making sure that we all are equipped with the right tools to complete our jobs and makes attending professional development events seamless. I have watched her spend a great amount of time making sure that when we arrive at our destination for training, we will not have any issues with accommodations.

#### **Amber Branton**

Reason for nomination: Amber is the go to with students. Over the year I have noticed the rapport Amber has developed with students breaking down that wall allowing students to trust her with assisting them. Amber always has a smile on her face and has great ideas.

#### **Rita Brown**

Reason for nomination: Rita is always looking for the silver lining when looking at processes and when faced with difficult tasks. Rita has always been a pleasure to work alongside and is always looking for ways to help students.

#### **Tiffany Cummings**

Reason for nomination: Tiffany Cummings (Bryant) has been such as amazing person to co-present with. She always adds a personal touch to her presentations during SOAR by relating as a former student. Tiffany and I became acquainted when she was a FWS student in the FA Office. I have watched Tiffany continue to strengthen what she contributes to this university. She is such an awesome presenter and a great first face for students and families as they enter new territories.

#### **Jami Dawkins**

Reason for nomination: Jami has gone above and beyond to assist our Passport Students during Jordan's maternity leave. In addition to keeping up with her own responsibilities, Jami has planned and executed two Passport Mentor training sessions, planned 4 Kick-Off events at CPCC, maintained the communication track for our new Passport cohort and our transitioning cohort and served as the contact for all new and continuing Passport Students. Jami has taken on these responsibilities willingly and has done an amazing job! Our Passport students are so lucky to have her as a resource and support in Jordan's a sense and the it would not have been possible to keep things running smoothly without her! Thank you, Jami for your commitment to the success of the program!

#### **Heather Gladys**

Reason for nomination: Heather Gladys played a critical role in the successful planning and opening of the new Undergraduate Admissions Center. She spent countless hours in planning and design meetings, and then many more hours each week in construction meetings as the building began to take physical shape. She had an eye for details, an ear for concerns, and a voice for shaping the future. More than all of that, she had a heart for making the building the best possible space for our visit program and daily operations. Her contributions to the building project will be felt for years to come as we maximize opportunities to enhance our guest experience and showcase the university to the public. Heather managed to take on this critical project while also managing her daily responsibilities with the visit program. Thanks to her expertise and dedication, our

guests never experienced anything less than our best and our student team thrived under her leadership. She truly went above and beyond, and there were often times that she was doing the work others wouldn't (i.e. measuring restroom stalls for tissue dispensers, washing windows, researching furniture options, etc.). Because of her contributions, our building is something all of Niner Nation can be proud of.

#### **Dustin Grannis**

Reason for nomination: Dustin came in about a year ago and hit the ground running. He is a pleasure to work with and always finds ways to streamline our processes and gives good feedback. I also admire Dustin's knowledge of his job.

#### **Shannon Harris**

Reason for nomination: Shannon Harris is always offering to contribute in areas of the office that may need support. Shannon always asks if there is anything "she can do to help". Not only does Shannon demonstrate great teamwork, she is efficient in her efforts. She is a valuable employee of UNC Charlotte and always provides a friendly face on campus when in passing of others by greeting them and simply asking "how they are doing", which I think helps demonstrate unity among faculty and staff.

#### **Kim Hight**

Reason for nomination: Kim Hight takes the initiative to greet every person in the office daily. This gesture goes a long ways especially during peak times. It has always felt good to see Kim walk around and say hello and help build team rapport. The only days that Kim has not greeted the team has been the days she was out of the office.

#### **Jay Skipworth**

Reason for nomination: Ever since Jay joined our team about a year ago, he has been known as the person who is always willing to jump in to help anyone and everyone. During our renovation process, I have noticed him joining with the director to move staff office furniture, multiple times, whenever the construction workers need to get to a new area; he has also not shied away from helping rearrange office decor, volunteering to paint, or simply cleaning the office kitchen whenever it is not needed. For the team he manages, I have witnessed a true caring for them - he shows interest in making sure they have proper life/work balance, covering his teammates work whenever there is a need, and fighting for any resources needed on their behalf. He is not the kind of person that sees his "title" as more important than anyone else...but rather just a part of the machine that works together to complete the work that needs to be done. The initiative that he takes is exactly what every teammate should have at work and the engagement and motivation to succeed is purposeful and adds value to the team. It is for these qualities that Jay is being nominated for this award.

## **Area 4**

#### **Steve Crull**

Reason for nomination: During the week of 7/15/19, our department had to tackle a very large and complex software upgrade to our parking system. This required a number of resources both on the vendor side and University side. Steve was one of those University resources who we relied upon HEAVILY. Not only did Steve stop everything else he was working on to focus on this upgrade, he spent LONG hours on our project, many of them after-hours. His expertise and assistance was critical to pulling off a successful upgrade. Many thanks to Steve for his hard work and dedication!

## **Area 6**

#### **Jahtoya Means**

Reason for nomination: I have worked with this young woman for 3 years. Jahtoya, in addition to her own responsibilities, is so eager and pleased to help anyone who needs it. She gets the job done and solves any issue that comes her way and if she can't figure it out, she finds someone who can. Jahtoya is very outgoing and if you don't know her yet, it won't be long until you do! I believe she deserves to be recognized for her efforts and great attitude!

## **Area 8**

### **Michele Wallace**

Reason for nomination: Michele is such a hard worker and always knows the answer to anything you ask her. And if she doesn't, she will make sure to find out. She made me feel so welcome during my on boarding and I am so lucky to have her as a co-worker!

### **Jocelyn Westpfahl**

Reason for nomination: Jocelyn is a quiet achiever. It is great to have her in the office of the Dean in the College of Computing and Informatics. She puts her nose to the grindstone, cranks out the work, and does it ever so quietly. When she has a few extra minutes, she asks if there is anything she can do to assist others in the office. She is sharp, knows policy and procedure. She is friendly and approachable. Jocelyn's customer service skills are excellent. She has a great work ethic. One does not hear any complaints when she is interrupted. Jocelyn is an asset to the College and a wonderful co-worker. Jocelyn is very deserving of this extra recognition.

## **Area 9**

### **David Bailey**

Reason for nomination: I have been limited in my work duties due to a recent injury. Both Cindy and David have stepped up big time to pick up my work load! No one needed to tell them this had to be done. They just did it. Each has done so professionally and without hesitation. I know they will continue to do so, no questions asked, for as long as needed. I'm lucky to have them as my co-workers!!

### **Cindy Shores**

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## **Area 10**

### **Marina LeLeux**

Reason for nomination: Being a new hire here at the university, the amount of information provided, can be overwhelming (In a good way)! Going over employee benefits, at any company, can also be overwhelming! However, Marina LeLeux made that process very manageable and she was extremely informative, patient and willing to break things down with everyone in my new hire orientation!

## **Area 11**

### **Krista Collins**

Reason for nomination: Krista Collins has been polite, patient, welcoming, and motivational throughout my entire on-boarding process!

### **Alicia Wells**

Reason for nomination: I would like to give a Alicia Wells a huge Golden Nugget award for her patience and understanding in helping us move out of Cedar Hall. She was quick to make moving arrangements for us, carried supplies herself, and was available to answer questions as needed! The Enrollment Communications team is so grateful!

## **Area 12**

### **Johnnie Doyle**

Reason for nomination: This recommendation is a result of Johnnie being recognized by one of the graduate students in the building where he works. I am including the e-mail from the student.

Hello Sir,

I, Ashish S. Pujari, am a masters' student at UNC Charlotte. My major being mechanical engineering, I am usually holed up in Duke Centennial Hall. Mr. Johnnie Doyle has been one figure that I appreciate interacting with. He has been there to allow me access to my office room when I lose my office key and also provide with the utmost satisfaction when it comes to facility management. This email, as a result, is to mention how important Johnnie Doyle's work, not underestimating others, has been at Duke Centennial Hall.

I appreciate if it comes to fruition.

Thank You,

Ashish S. Pujari

## **Area 13**

### **Emily Wheeler**

Reason for nomination: Emily leads an amazing team of organized and outgoing individuals who roll out the green carpet for our newest Niner Nation denizens. She is a sensitive and caring individual with a sharp mind and analytical approach to her work. Through the development of robust relationships across campus, she is able to create an experience that is much greater than the simple sum of our parts. Emily is certainly deserving of a Golden Nugget nomination and I hope we are able to recognize her altruistic efforts in growing our Niner family.