



Golden Nugget Awards – Dec. 2017

Area 1

Cathy Bolen

Nominee's department: Chancellor's Office; VCBA

Reason for nomination: Cathy is always so good to route and follow through on time sensitive letters for signature for me, even during what I know are very busy times for the Chancellor's and VCBA's offices, and among a million other things to keep track of! Thank you!

Shari Dunn

Nominee's department: Chancellor's Office; VCBA

Reason for nomination: Shari is always so good to route and follow through on time sensitive letters for signature for me, even during what I know are very busy times for the Chancellor's and VCBA's offices, and among a million other things to keep track of! Thank you!

Andrea Greene

Nominee's department: University Advancement

Reason for nomination: Andrea has been a pleasure to work with since I started in my new position at the University last year! I work for the Belk College of Business and she is readily available to help me in my new role. She has a wealth of information regarding EduConverse and I appreciate her willingness to help me learn something new especially when I am in a bind and takes the time to talk things through with me. I know I can always count on her to help me out if no one else can and is a great team player across campus. She is a great asset for other departments and to the University!

Rachel Kaplan

Nominee's department: Internal Audit

Reason for nomination: Rachel is a true asset to this University. She has been the most pleasant and helpful person anyone could hope for. She is full of knowledge and never hesitates to share her knowledge to help a fellow colleague learn. Any time you ask her for anything she is always willing to stop what she is going to help out. She goes above and beyond every day and is the true meaning of a dedicated employee and wonderful human being. I value her and can only hope to help someone out the way she has assisted me.

Area 2

Bolu Akinyemi

Nominee's department: Undergraduate Admissions

Reason for nomination: Bolu is a wonderful asset to this team! She goes above and beyond for her students, some who come in multiple times in a single week to meet with her. Many guests leave her office with questions answered, problems solved, and hope that their situation will work out in a positive way. I truly enjoy working with and learning from Bolu each day!

Chris Garcia

Nominee's department: Enrollment Management, Niner Central

Reason for nomination: Chris recently was engaged in assisting a student in physical distress. This is just one example of the tremendous asset Chris Garcia is for the Niner Central team and the value of her leadership for the new members of the Niner Central team. She is determined to find solutions to the most challenging

requests and never fails to go above and beyond the call of duty when it comes to our students and families. Chris makes a difference every day as the Niner Central Associate Director responsible for leading improvements for our customer experience. She is constantly looking for ways to improve services for our families.

Reason for nomination: On November 4th, Chris received a request from an alumni who had met his girlfriend in McEniry in college Algebra 7 years earlier. He was planning a proposal and wanted to ask her to marry him in the same spot where they had met. He wanted to fill the classroom with close friends and family as he asked the big question. The student did not receive the most helpful response when he originally reached out to others and recognized this required effective "event planning" and so Chris became the facilitator to make all the magic happen as the 2014 graduate hoped. Chris checked on the room availability, spoke with the right folks in Reservations, worked around exam schedules, identified fees and insurance needs required (!) and helped the graduate get all set. The proposal occurred on Saturday December 9th and the outcome was an incredible success - she said yes! The graduate was so pleased and shared a photo of the happy couple! Chris Garcia makes dreams come true in so many different ways. This is just one of many examples of the manner in which Chris approaches her role. She knows no boundaries when it comes to helping a student or family with a request. She moves mountains daily and we are so lucky to have her as part of the Niner Central team.

Tiasha Dargins

Nominee's department: Enrollment Management, Niner Central

Reason for nomination: Tiasha was recently involved in a request where a student was in physical distress and had to be located. Tiasha is new to higher ed and has quickly contributed to the value of the Niner Central team by getting up to speed quickly and learning how to use all the many systems required to serve our students and families. Her familiarity with Salesforce CRM made the difference in locating the student in distress and created the opportunity for teamwork with Niner Central and first responders to provide the attention required to assist the student. Niner Central is fortunate to have Tiasha as the Associate Director for Operations. She is committed to ensuring our team has all the tools and training necessary to be effective and make a difference for our students and families.

Samantha Malpass

Nominee's department: Enrollment Management, Niner Central

Reason for nomination: Samantha recently had a very challenging call for management that resulted in helping assist a student in physical distress. The manner in which Samantha remained calm and professional while multiple individuals worked various channels to locate this student's physical presence is a demonstration of Sam's professional abilities and approach to her role as a Student Services Specialist. This was definitely a team effort with many players involved. We're so proud of Sam's contributions to the team and the difference she creates for students and families of UNC Charlotte and think this is a tremendous opportunity to recognize her skills and spirit for service.

Sharon Moses

Nominee's department: Undergraduate Admissions

Reason for nomination: Sharon has really gone out of her way recently to help our team to meet its goals. She jumped in to help us to complete an important project during a critically busy time. We appreciate her productivity and her willingness to help. She is a true team player!

Area 4

Mike Carr

Nominee's department: IT Services

Reason for nomination: He is a great asset to our University. He always goes above and beyond for me and the office of Financial Aid. His customer service is outstanding to everyone in need of help. He answers the phone and email quickly. He strives to make our work easier. He always does more than is required of him. Thanks Mike for all you do for us & the UNC Charlotte campus.

Area 5

Emma Ankrah

Nominee's department: HRL

Reason for nomination: Ms. Emma is a very hard working lady and it's a pleasure to work with her during summer. She never complain and always willing to help others.

Delys Espinal

Nominee's department: HRL

Reason for nomination: Thank you for your hard work. It's an honor to work with you for the last 5 years.

Dr. Aaron Hart

Nominee's department: Housing and Residence Life

Reason for nomination: Dr. Aaron Hart arrived at UNC Charlotte and with Housing and Residence Life during a very challenging time. He arrived during a time of transition, moves, and lots of change. Dr. Hart has passion, dedication, leadership and team dynamic that was evident right when he arrived. Housing and Residence Life was not only transitioning department leadership, but also divisional leadership and physical building space. During this time, Dr. Hart remained positive, determined and ready for the new adventures. In working with students, Dr. Hart listens intentionally and enjoys interacting with students each day. The students have also shared positive feedback with his leadership, involvement, and student value that they feel as part of Housing and Residence Life. In December, Dr. Hart specifically managed staff change, office moves, and new team dynamics. Dr. Hart does all of these things with poise and grace. Dr. Hart values each staff member as a person rather than just an employee of the department. Grounded in his faith and family, he values the employees' passion not just in the workplace, but what they value outside of work because he understands that can make people more productive and valuable staff. Directly related to their value, also in December, Dr. Hart created a staff recognition committee, to help with staff development and team morale. Dr. Hart is very deserving of a December Golden Nugget Award.

Gary Moore

Nominee's department: Housing & Residence Life - Technology Services

Reason for nomination: Gary is the kind of employee that companies dream of having but rarely get. He is the epitome of the perfect employee. He works endlessly to support our administrative staff here in Housing & Residence Life. Whether the situation is just a computer problem or moving the whole department's computers to a new location he is always there and never stops until everyone is serviced and satisfied. Through all of this I have never heard him complain or seem act like he is put out. He always has a smile on his face and a kind word for everyone he comes in contact with. I have seen him start when the sun rises at 7:00 am and still working as I am leaving at dusk. I have seen him deal with the most difficult of employees with a positive attitude and work endlessly to see that their computer is working as it should be. The large staff of Housing & Residence Life is so grateful to have Gary Moore as our computer technician.

Brenda Puente

Nominee's department: Housing Resident Life Holshouser

Reason for nomination: Brenda is an excellent employee who gives her 100% everyday on the job and shows up every day. Furthermore, she is always sharing new ways to do the job better with her coworkers. I am extremely grateful and happy to have her apart of this department.

Theresa Saydee

Nominee's department: HRL

Reason for nomination: She is a very hard working lady always on time giving a 100% for our department.

Rick Smith

Nominee's department: HRL

Reason for nomination: Thank You Rick for everything you do for our department. We appreciate you and we missed you a lot when you take vacation.

Reason for nomination: Rick Smith he is a very hard working employee. He goes above and beyond for our department. Thank You we appreciate everything you are doing for us.

Sandra Williams

Nominee's department: HRL

Reason for nomination: I just want to thank you for helping me to clean that day in Sept. when we went to Elm Building. That's what a good supervisor does.

Area 10

Krista Collins

Nominee's department: Human Resources - Training

Reason for nomination: Parking and Transportation Services would like to recognize Krista Collins for her outstanding devotion to the Campus Niner Transit Service. She has promoted the service to all of her coworkers and has even taken time to walk them through the process. She has brought them to the bus stop to experience the service for the first time! She was also instrumental in incorporating the service into a new NEO program in which all new employees will be requested to ride one of the routes to complete a checklist. This would allow them to experience the service and to see the campus layout at the same time. Her continuing efforts to market our services adds to the success of the program. Krista, thank you for your outstanding support and overwhelming drive to educate new employees as well as decrease traffic congestion on campus.

Reason for nomination: Outstanding leadership in New Hire Orientation. She is a true lover of what she does and made all of us new hire's feel at home!

Area 12

Agnes Douglas

Nominee's department: BES

Reason for nomination: We had a bad sewage back up in Rowe. Agnes did the aftermath clean up without complaining. She also refused to let me help. This clean-up was above and beyond her job descriptions.

Katherine Humphries

Nominee's department: BES

Reason for nomination: Mrs. Katherine goes above and to help out her employees, even when it does not pertain to her job. Mrs. Katherine went step by step to make sure all of her employees had help enrolling for the health benefits, she also read, and explained all benefits with each employee. Mrs. Katherine makes sure that we all get all campus information and she helps educate her employees.

Jessica Nixon

Nominee's department: BES

Reason for nomination: We had a bad sewage back up in Rowe. Jessica did the aftermath clean up without complaining. She also refused to let me help. This clean-up was above and beyond her job descriptions.

Area 13

Renita Eason

Nominee's department: Student Health

Reason for nomination: Her dependability, which is often taken for granted.

Area 15A

Pete Crainshaw

Nominee's department: Facilities Management Renovations

Reason for nomination: Pete is always willing to lend a hand to a fellow co-worker. We needed to repair a few outside lights at Grigg Hall that are impossible to reach without a boom lift. While Pete was at Grigg pressure washing he offered to operate the 85 ft. lift with one of our techs in the basket making the repairs. After receiving permission from Pete's supervisor we were able to complete the repairs in a timely manner.

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Joe Crocker

Nominee's department: FM Zone #4

Reason for nomination: Joe was very instrumental in assisting with a major burst in the Food Waste Pulper line at the Student Union. Thanks Joe!!

Pat Foley

Nominee's department: FM Zone #4

Reason for nomination: Pat was very instrumental in assisting with a major burst in the Food Waste Pulper line at the Student Union. Thanks Pat!!

Doug Lape

Nominee's department: Parking and Transportation Services

Reason for nomination: Doug has recently led the Parking and Transportation department through major changes to our program. His forward thinking and positive attitude towards this change has inspired his department to work harder for the University Community.

Chris McKinney

Nominee's department: FM Zone #4

Reason for nomination: Chris was very instrumental in assisting with a major burst in the Food Waste Pulper line at the Student Union. Thanks Chris!!

Area 15B

Neal Eudy

Nominee's department: Zone 2

Reason for nomination: Neal is a very good technician on rebuilding pumps, he has saved the university thousands of dollars on pumps alone all over campus. He is an excellent technician on anything he works on, and is a team player.

Terrell Morris

Nominee's department: Zone 2

Reason for nomination: Terrell has saved the university thousands of dollars on his knowledge and instruction on rebuilding pumps across campus. He always has a good way of explaining what needs to be done on whatever is assigned to him!

Jeff Saer

Nominee's department: Zone 2

Reason for nomination: Jeff is a hard worker and team player, he is willing to work on anything he is asked to work on. He will help on anything he can, and is always willing to learn something new. He is an asset to this zone, and liked by everyone!!!

Area 17

Kristin Coffey

Nominee's department: Venture

Reason for nomination: Kristin is a joy to work with. She seems to always have things organized and ready ahead of schedule. She will assist anyone with a project anytime she can do so. She is wise beyond her years and always has a positive outlook on life. Our students and staff adore her!

Rashona Sharpless

Nominee's department: Student Involvement

Reason for nomination: Rashona has committed herself to the success of student organizations in many ways! She manages the Student Organization Resource Center, constantly providing resources for student org leaders while contributing to the growth and development of the student staff that run the space. Rashona is creative, positive, and dedicated to her work here at UNC Charlotte. She also succeeds in collaborating with campus partners from all across the University. Outside of her day to day to work for student organizations, she also finds time to volunteer, serving on the Chancellor's Health and Wellness Advisory Board and Conference Planning Team for ACUI Region III.

Area 18**Greer Friedrich**

Nominee's department: School of Architecture

Reason for nomination: I just started my position in the School of Architecture about three weeks ago, and Greer has been instrumental in helping me get acclimated. She was in touch with me even before my first day, and personally walked me over to HR, Parking Services, and the ID Office so I wouldn't get lost. Since then, she periodically checks in with me to see if I need help with anything. Greer has a clear passion for her work and takes a critical eye to office processes in order to be as efficient as possible. We are so lucky to have her in the School of Architecture!