



Golden Nugget Awards – October/November 2018

Area 1

Kimberly Gray

Reason for nomination: I feel like Kim needs to be acknowledged for her role she plays keeping the operations of our office smooth. It is a tall order to keep the student experience positive with three substantial centers of the university; university advising center, university transfer center, and the university center for academic excellence. It can be a thankless job sometimes, but I appreciate her organization, high expectations, and her genuine concern for students. Thanks Kim!

Elizabeth Moll

Reason for nomination: Elizabeth facilitated a fantastic team-building opportunity for our department, using the CliftonStrengths assessment. She was extremely knowledgeable and professional presenting the material to us, discussing our results, and having us work in smaller teams. Throughout our smaller discussions, she was an invaluable resource in helping us understand our strengths and how we could use those to our advantage in our current roles and how to best work with people with differing (or similar) strengths. She was a natural in her delivery of this information and keeping us interested in the material.

Cynthia Yeldell

Reason for nomination: Cynthia does not work in my department, but she does work in the Foundation Building where we have most of our workshops or trainings. On two different occasions, Cynthia has gone above and beyond her duties as the administrative assistant to help me find needed resources that were crucial to a workshop that I was facilitating. Cynthia also notified me when a scheduled workshop facilitator from a local banking institution did not show up as planned for a workshop. Cynthia made sure that the employees who were waiting in the classroom were greeted and comfortable. She quickly called me to let me know there was an issue -- I otherwise would not have known. Thank you, Cynthia for always being kind, helpful, responsive, and attentive to the needs of others, especially those who are guests to the Foundation Building.

Area 2

Jessa Morgan

Reason for nomination: On Thursday, August 22, Jessa worked all night to clear queues for loan processing and help our students with status updates for aid prior to cancellation on the following Monday. We know how exhausted the Financial Aid team is from all the applications and requests for aid and appreciate all of our Financial Aid partners and especially this extra effort for our students. Way to go Jessa!

Ashley Peyton

Reason for nomination: I am the new volunteer Coordinator for a mentoring organization on campus called Mentoring Circles. I expressed to Ashley that I was going to go to the Student Union and have students screen shot the flyer to save it in their phone. She googled, youTubed and found a way to create a Q_R code for people to scan and added it to the flyer. When people scanned it, it immediately downloaded the flyer to their phone! Amazing!! Even the students were impressed! I am thankful for her wisdom in technology and her willingness to go above and beyond by sharing it to help me with a project.

Area 4

Season Jamison

Reason for nomination: Ms. Jamison facilitated the new Gmail Interface workshop today. I have been in hundreds of workshops and several here on campus over the past 18 years. She is one of the best instructors I have had. I was impressed with her professionalism, knowledge, engagement, interaction, and meeting my expectations of learning this new tool that the University is going to next month - making the transition seamless. Most of all, the time went by fast. She let us know of upcoming instructor-led and web based training she is developing, AND offered to come to our department to present training if we needed it. It is great to have Ms. Jamison at UNC Charlotte. She has some great ideas moving forward.

Area 5

Jeff Brindle

Reason for nomination: Jeff Brindle served as the Facilities Supervisor on call during Hurricane Florence. As the Residence Education Coordinator on call, I had to call Jeff several times throughout the weekend regarding facilities issues that arose from the storm. Jeff was consistently patient, attentive, and incredibly helpful- even when I had called 20+ times! He is very knowledgeable about our facilities and is great at helping staff trouble shoot from afar. Further, he went above and beyond and allowed me to borrow his HRL truck over the weekend so that I could travel to and from duty calls safely in the storm. He truly deserves to be recognized for all that he does- both seen and unseen. He is one of the best people to be on call with and I am grateful to have had his support during a stressful weekend.

Area 6

Patrick Jones

Reason for nomination: One of Patrick's many responsibilities is being the building liaison for the McEniry building. Anything to do with the building Patrick is the go to person; everything from space assignments/tracking, swipe/key access, office furniture needs, infrastructure repairs, etc. he manages. With his detailed knowledge of building, he's always coming up with ideas on how the building space could be improved and/or utilized better. Being an older building there tends to be many maintenance and renovation issues that need to be addressed. Patrick is proactive and communicates effectively with FM and BES to address any building issues/concerns he observes or is informed about by others. Patrick's intimate building knowledge is highly respected by the maintenance personnel and he quickly becomes included in any team working in the building. For the past few years Patrick has worked with Design Services personnel with renovations within the building and he has become an important asset to them. Patrick keeps an eye on renovation/repairs and makes sure these are performed properly and recognizes when changes need to be made. When contractors working on projects within McEniry have questions, they will seek out Patrick who will have the answer or assist them in getting it. Faculty, staff and students in McEniry are very lucky to have Patrick watching over the building for them.

Teena Power

Reason for nomination: Teena's title of undergraduate support does not do justice for what she does for the department. Having her work area within the departments open main office which houses the department's mailboxes, departmental printers, fax machine and copier, there's a constant stream of distractions she must contend with. She performs her normal undergraduate support tasks while handling inquiries from students, faculty, staff and public (walk-ins and phone calls), answering the departments main phone line, placing and receiving a multitude of orders in purchasing, monitoring and helping faculty with the copier and fax machines, scheduling conference rooms, etc., the list goes on. In this environment of a constant state of flux and distractions, she still manages to greet everyone with a smile, pleasant attitude and demeanor. The department is fortunate to have her in the main office and the "face" of the department. On top of all this she bakes a mean cake! She always keeps up with birthdays and special occasions within the department and uses her personal time to bake cakes to bring in and celebrate these days..... a great person!

Area 8

Mike Fresnia

Reason for nomination: Mike came on board to CCI in the spring of 2018 as the Director of Communications. Since then his stellar ideas and upbeat attitude has served us well. He is so creative and he given our students something fun to do every other week on our communications board out in the foyer of our main entrance. Mike really took the reigns at our CCI Convocation this fall in the SAC! He really knows how to "wow" a room. His energy and impeccable communication skills was the highlight of the day! He kept us laughing and he connected with everyone so easily. He deserves a Golden Nugget for sure! Hands down!

Gina Robinson

Reason for nomination: On behalf of Undergraduate Admissions, we truly appreciate Gina's ongoing and unwavering dedication to supporting our recruitment efforts. She is always willing to assist with events and programs. She coordinates with her colleagues and serves as a liaison to ensure our partnership with Engineering is always supporting the needs of students. She has proactive ideas, great insight, and a positive attitude. Simply put, we love working with her! Thank you for being an outstanding campus partner!

Area 9

Salima Iskra

Reason for nomination: Salima is a awesome coworker and helped me in a time of need. I had an appointment with a professor for one of my departments so I could walk her through the ATF process. Unfortunately, minutes prior to the appointment time I received notification that the daycare for my children had to close immediately because they lost power. Therefore, I would need to leave ASAP to pick up my children. Salima stepped up and assisted the Professor immediately without hesitation. She is always helpful and supportive of her team.

Area 10

Marina LeLeux

Reason for nomination: Marina was only hired in April but quickly rose to the challenge of handling walk-in appointments while monitoring leave of absence requests. She is such a bright and happy person and is always excited to be at work. She's always eager and willing to help and would give you the shirt off her back if you needed it.

Area 11

Mary Hajtovik

Reason for nomination: This is to thank Mary for being consistent at meeting deadlines especially on short notice. This month she wrote a thorough news article on our employee of the quarter for our newsletter. This is a task delegated to her by her supervisor after I send the information following our all employees meeting. She gets this done before others who have had longer lead times complete their articles. This makes a huge difference in the timing of getting our quarterly newsletter out on time. Also, this month she compiled information for an agenda with 24 hours notice because I gave the notice late. She is a pleasure to work with and it is great to have colleagues who can come through in a pinch. Thanks Mary!!

Charleata Neal

Reason for nomination: Charleata has brought renewed "leadership energy" to the FM HR group. She is always open, fair and consistent in her dealings with others which has increased the level of trust needed to be a fully functioning HR department. Quite simply a joy to work with.

Area 12

Roosevelt Chambers

Reason for nomination: Mr. Roosevelt Chambers went out of his way to help me load a pickup truck with equipment for an EXPLORE Open House event at 7 AM on Saturday, Sept. 22, 2018. I was expecting two student workers to help me load five pedestals into the truck, but they didn't show up. Mr. Chambers was in

Storrs cleaning, and when I asked for assistance, he immediately came to help me out. I wouldn't have been able to get the truck loaded without Mr. Chambers's help - he definitely went above and beyond early on a Saturday morning. Thank you so much!

Patrick Hernandez

Reason for nomination: Patrick Hernandez. Patrick went beyond the call of duty, during the absence of the McEniry Lead person. Patrick took on extra heavy workload tasks, without hesitation, and with a good attitude. Patrick was able to complete all the tasks and meet the deadline time for the start of the first class operation. Patrick thank you, and your dedication to the job, is appreciated.

Richard Jedynek

Reason for nomination: Rich is a step up to the plate kind of guy! He consistently goes above and beyond to help his employees out and never complains! Also when employees are out, he steps up and helps out!! He is a great manager!

Steve McMiller

Reason for nomination: Steve is such an awesome coworker! Not only does he go above and beyond, he does it with a smile! His words of encouragement go a long way and his positivity does as well!

Carlota Mieles

Reason for nomination: Hurricane clean up- Janet Mieles went beyond and provide excellent service during the time of the projected hurricane Florence. She helped clean up Ceiling tile that the flood waters damage and cause the ceiling tile to collapse. This was a very heavy duty and detail clean up job. Thank you Janet Mieles for arriving to work safely, during the windy storm, and providing excellent service, with a positive attitude.

Reason for nomination: Janet goes above, and beyond during the absence of the Lead person, without hesitation she distributed, supplies, keys, radios, and tools, that the team needs. Janet has a good attitude, and makes good ethical decisions.

Jean Pierre Nzau Mvumbi

Reason for nomination: Hurricane clean up- Pierre Nzau went beyond and provide excellent service during the time of the projected hurricane Florence. he helped clean up Ceiling tile that the flood waters damage and cause the ceiling tile to collapse. This was a very heavy duty and detail clean up job. Thank you Pierre Nzau for arriving to work safely, during the windy storm, and providing excellent service, with a positive attitude.

Hnin Pwint

Reason for nomination: Hurricane clean up- Suu Pwint went beyond and provide excellent service during the time of the projected hurricane Florence. Suu helped clean up Ceiling tile that the flood waters damage and cause the ceiling tile to collapse. This was a very heavy duty and detail clean up job. Thank Suu Pwint for arriving to work safely during the windy storm. Suu provided excellent service, with a positive attitude.

Doneesha Richardson

Reason for nomination: Doneesha is really a hard worker! Her confidence in herself and her ability to get things done are amazing! She works hard and her attention to detail are incredible! I think she is also an amazing person to work with! Her work ethic can inspire one to work harder!

Stanley Smith

Reason for nomination: Stanley was unsuccessful reach out to his immediate supervisor, during the absence of the Lead person, but without hesitation Stanley distributed, supplies, keys, radios, and tools, that the team needed. Stanley enhances all technical skills, with a professional credentials, his supervisor recognizes his ability and expert traits in the leadership field. Stanley has a good attitude, and makes good ethical decisions.

Maria Vega

Reason for nomination: Hurricane clean up- Maria Veaga went beyond and provide excellent service during the time of the projected hurricane Florence. She helped clean up Ceiling tile that the flood waters damage and cause the ceiling tile to collapse. This was a very heavy duty and detail clean up job. Thank you Maria Vega for arriving to work safely, during the windy storm, and providing excellent service, with a positive attitude.

Area 17**Michael Avery**

Reason for nomination: Kudos to Michael Avery for being a helpful and resourceful colleague for more than 10 years now. Michael was my 'go to' person in the events office for several years. Now he is the assistant director in Cone Center. Today is one of many occasions where Michael has come to my rescue while in McKnight Hall for our all employees meeting which is comprised of approximately 300 staff members from Facilities Management. Michael set up the equipment and stayed at my request just in case I had technical difficulties... and I did. This is not the first time this has happened and he has stayed. I appreciate his time and good nature. He is a great asset to the University.