

# January Golden Nugget Award Recipients

1. Cheryl Hester – University Advising Center (Area 1)

In addition to working with a caseload of 200+ advisees, Cheryl manages the 49er Rebound program for University College. In collaboration with colleagues from the Office of Student Success, Cheryl organizes workshops at the beginning of the semester for second semester students on probation, and promotes to them the best plan of action to erase the grade point average deficit and return to good academic standing. Because of Cheryl's efforts, University College has seen a reduction in the number of students on academic suspension. – Anonymous

2. John Cullum – Development (Area 1)

I joined the staff of University Advancement in mid-November and I have counted on John to help me understand planned giving as a means to attract major gifts. He has provided an open door policy and given me time and attention, including me in calls. In fact, just a few weeks after I started he shared with me a gift idea with a music school graduate and his approach with the donor's favorite professor. The result was a planned estate gift that is worth over \$1.5 million. He also approaches the job with enthusiasm and passion as if he was an alumnus. He's not, but he certainly bleeds green and loves Miss Bonnie. – Mark Colone

3. Rayna McGinley – Education Abroad (Area 1)

Rayna McGinley is an incredibly hardworking and thoughtful individual. She consistently goes above and beyond her job description and expected responsibilities to ensure that our office runs smoothly. Rayna is both a diligent and invaluable team member, and does it all with a lighthearted attitude. She not only makes our jobs easier, but makes coming into work something to look forward to. – Jess Taylor

4. James Conwell – Housing & Residence Life (Area 5)

JD is an outstanding employee! He goes above and beyond the call of duty and does it with a smile on his face! When I work with JD I know he will always be positive and have great customer service with our students, staff, and guests. Last week specifically, JD went above the call of duty in helping get a few of our international students checked into their housing assignments. He took the time to work with them and help them understand the system. I enjoy working with JD and I know that our students do as well. He is patient and kind to each person he works with. JD is deserving of even more than the Golden Nugget because he is so outstanding!! – Aysen Ulupinar

5. Alisia Engle – Housing & Residence Life (Area 5)

Alisia Engle is deserving of recognition for her positive attitude, great customer service, and willingness to go above and beyond. When working with Alisia, I am always confident when working with Alisia that she is going to support the team and be positive about each situation! She works to ensure the success of our students! Alisia deserves recognition for her above and beyond positive outlook and hard work! – Aysen Ulupinar

6. **Jeremy Perry – Housing & Residence Life (Area 5)**

Jeremy works hard in his role to ensure those he works with, his supervisors and mentors are getting the most out of their experience. Jeremy is responsible and dedicated to his role and students! He takes the time to ensure he is completing his responsibilities and is willing to go above and beyond to help! I appreciate the work that Jeremy does! Jeremy is deserving of recognition for his hard work and dedication to UNCC. – Aysen Ulupinar

7. **Robin Moose – EPIC (Area 8)**

Dedicated hard worker and really helpful. She really did a lot for me to help me get my GASP award by sending emails and other important notices. – Bhaskar Mitra

8. **Tahnett Mack – Controller (Area 9)**

I call Tahnett almost every day with questions or help needed related to student employment payroll issues. She always has an answer or can find one quickly, and she's always kind, funny, and helpful in the process. She's a rockstar! – Gillian Perry

9. **Kieffer Gaddis – Human Resources (Area 10)**

Kieffer, is a true asset to the Human Resources and the University. I know he has worked here a long time, and still offers any assistance he can. He is always open and approachable if you have any type of questions. His demeanor is always pleasant and courteous. He deserves a Golden Nugget! – Anonymous

10. **Mary Olbrich – Human Resources (Area 10)**

Mary is the most pleasant and helpful person. She is always ready and willing to help anyone who has a question or needs to get something done. She generates a warm friendly feeling and always makes you feel welcome and appreciated. I recommend her to receive a golden nugget for her dedication to her department, eagerness and availability to her co-workers, and her all around friendly personality. – Anonymous

11. **Veretta Wood – Mail Services (Area 10)**

Veretta continues to improve in various areas of Mail & Package Services. She takes the initiative to help out without being asked and shows great team work. Veretta leads by example and keeps a positive attitude even when things seem very frustrating at times. Veretta goes above and beyond the expectation of her supervisor and has a heart for making this University the BEST!!! – Jeremy Golden

12. **Paul Dilgard – FM Portal Operations (Area 11)**

Paul offered to help me get my office organized, and so he did. He came to my new office with permission from his supervisor of course, and he hanged some items for me and even offered to come help on his day off with rearranging the office furniture. He had his drill in hand because my walls are all concrete. He did a great job and even gave ideas on where and how to place certain items on the walls. He has a good eye for organizing an office. He was a great help to me when I needed it. I want to show my appreciation for his selfless act of kindness and labor. – Virgie Fewell

13. **Richard Jedynak – Housekeeping (Area 12)**

Richard is new to BES and he hit the ground running as soon as he started here. He has truly been going nonstop. He is such an asset to both myself and the team. He does anything that I

ask and without hesitation. He helps the team wherever needed and communicates everything to me that is needed throughout the day. I just want him to know that I appreciate his efforts. – Virgie Fewell

**14. Linda Wiley – Housekeeping (Area 12)**

On the 20th of January we had got some snow and some freezing rain not a lot but just enough to make some places slick and icy. Linda came on the radio letting her teammate know that the ramps outside of the BES/recycling offices were very slick and to make sure that her teammate used the rails to walk down the ramps so they wouldn't fall. I feel that she went above and beyond her duty to make sure her teammate stayed safe. I also came on the radio letting her know that she had done a great job for the safety part of her job. – Paul Dilgard

**15. Jerome Crawford & Chris Facente – Automotive (Area 15A)**

If you remember the show "The Golden Girls," you are very likely to recall the character Sophia who was known for her wit and vivid stories which she would begin with the infamous words, "Picture it." Therefore in her words, "Picture it..." Three female co-workers were making their way back to the office building in one of the electrical vehicles when all of a sudden the speed decreases to a seemingly stroll through the park pace. The number of cars behind them begins to grow and the vehicle seems to go even slower. Luckily there was a spot along the way for them to pull over to allow the stream of cars to go by and that's when Jerome who was in the opposite lane saw the women, made a (safe) U-turn and checked on them. He assured them everything was okay and they'd make it back to safely park. What happened next exemplified the "above and beyond" aspect of his assistance... He began to push the vehicle and up a hill. Once it appeared the vehicle regained a reasonable speed he returned to his truck and followed behind them. Shortly after, the vehicle's speed decreases again and Chris, who was walking by clearly on his way to do something else, noticed assistance was needed. Without hesitation he, too, began to push the vehicle and did so until the women returned to the parking space. Today, everyone can laugh about it but it is without a doubt these two gentlemen have invisible capes! These women will always remember their assistance and, especially, the care and professionalism displayed. Did I forget to mention the temperature was 20-something degrees and all three women remained in the vehicle the entire time? YES, these guys are cape wearing heroes! Thank you guys for going beyond the call of duty!!! – Anonymous

**16. Richard Bohling – Facilities Management Zone 2 (Area 15B)**

Rick does an excellent job in keeping the mechanical systems in Grigg Hall operational despite the many challenges faced in this complex building. – Anonymous

**17. Carolyn Aguiar – Research & Economic Dev (Area 16)**

Carolyn goes above and beyond to help others in our department. She is always eager to step in and help when CRI is under-staffed and always willing to share her wealth of University knowledge. It is a pleasure to have Carolyn as a colleague! – Anonymous

**18. Jennifer Anderson – College of Arts & Architecture (Area 18)**

Jennifer was kind enough to help me set up a conference room in her building. It may seem like a small gesture, but I had quite a few things going on when she came by my office and it was really an amazing offer that saved me a lot of time! – Naoka Tsujimoto

19. Jennifer Livengood – College of Arts & Architecture (Area 18)

Jennifer has been available since my first day to answer questions and be a resource. Her willingness to help, sense of humor and great attitude has left such a positive impression of UNCC and the culture that is fostered here! – Naoka Tsujimoto

20. Mary Welsh – College of Arts & Architecture (Area 18)

Mary has been an endless resource of information and has made transitioning to UNCC as a new hire a wonderful experience! – Naoka Tsujimoto

21. Armetta Davis – School of Architecture (Area 18)

Armetta has been incredibly supportive and caring. In the short time we've spent together her personality has really shone. – Naoka Tsujimoto

22. Zuzana Bombardier – School of Architecture (Area 18)

Zuzana is extremely patient and flexible. She has been ready, willing and able to impart her knowledge on me to assist in my transition to UNCC and I am so grateful! – Naoka Tsujimoto

23. Zachary Tarlton – Dance (Area 18)

Zach was one of the first people to make himself available as a resource and has kept his word! Despite being incredibly busy, he is always available to answer questions with warmth and sincerity! – Naoka Tsujimoto

24. April Spruill – College of Arts & Architecture (Area 18)

April is always ready willing and able to help in learning new processes. She goes above and beyond by providing resources and materials that can be used to greatly simplify my day! – Naoka Tsujimoto