

Golden Nugget Award Recipients - December 2022

Date of submission	Nominee's Name	Nominee's Department	Area #	Reason for nomination
12/14/2022	Michelle Gachette	Atkins Library	1	Michelle Gachette is the Charles Hight Architecture Library Supervisor, and she is outstanding at her job. She consistently works harder and longer hours than required, and puts her whole self into her work. She has really brought new life into the Architecture Library, by further developing existing procedures, as well as by creating and designing new ways to use the library and its resources. Her promotion of the library is outstanding. She has moved the library from the edges of awareness to an integral part of the College of Arts + Architecture. Before she started in her current position, the library was seen as a nice place to have a quiet moment, or even a nap. Now people across campus are realizing that the library provides valuable resources and academic support, and are increasingly relying on the Architecture Library and Michelle for the help they need. She has transformed the way the library operates, by training her student workers to actively support the library patrons from the moment they come in the door, as well as by her communications with CoA+A faculty and staff. Because of Michelle, the Architecture Library is providing more and better service. Her friendly, welcoming and knowledgeable attitude has transformed the entire focus and existence of the library, and I cannot think of anyone who deserves more recognition of their hard work than Michelle Gachette.
12/3/2022	Ashley Clarke	Undergraduate Admissions	2	Ashley went above and beyond helping to process international first year applications during department's pick season.
12/3/2022	Barbara Seyter	Undergraduate Admissions	2	I am continually amazed by the work ethic of Barb Seyter. With years of experience in admissions, she constantly improves her skills and has up-to-date knowledge of the complex processes. Last year, she was able to lead the whole first-year and transfer application process. This year she was able to adapt to changes in the office, both system and staff changes.  She leads by example, working harder than anybody I have ever met. She is always willing to consult and give ideas and inspire for new accomplishments. Perhaps that is why there is rarely an empty slot in her calendar.  She is the best supervisor an employee can wish for. She trains people with patience and professionalism. She also helped thousands of students and continues to do so. Everyone in undergraduate admissions looks up to her. Barb, thank you, for doing remarkable things with passport program, transfer program, and overall undergraduate admissions!
12/3/2022	Jennifer Watkins	Undergraduate Admissions	2	Jennifer went above and beyond helping to process international first year applications during department's pick season.
12/3/2022	Julie DeSario	Undergraduate Admissions	2	Julie went above and beyond helping to process international first year applications during department's pick season.
12/12/2022	Jennifer Galecki	Office of Inst Effect & Analytics (Institutional Research)	3	Jennifer has been a valued colleague to the Graduate School staff for years, and we value her analytical expertise in addition to her can-do attitude! She loves learning, helping people, and making complex data usable, and for all these things, we thank her!
12/14/2022	Justin Ashe	OneIT	4	Justin and Mike Teague came to the Student Health Center a few weeks ago to help troubleshoot a fax machine problem in the medical clinic. Our triage nurse depends on her fax machine and this is not an issue that campus desktop support employees usually work to fix. Justin and Mike figured out what was wrong and installed a spare printer/fax machine and then programmed the settings for us. They recognized the need we had for fax capabilities while we research other solutions and the fax communication is running smoothly again. Thanks so much for your help! We appreciate your time and efforts!
12/5/2022	Michael Peddycord	OneIT	4	Michael has continuously supported me through the onboarding into my new position, even while learning and working hard in his new position within the Salesforce team. He has gone above and beyond to help me in fixing issues, teaching me systems, and overall being an excellent co-worker. He exemplifies not only what it means to be a Niner, but also to take foster a positive environment for those you work with.
12/14/2022	Mike Teague	OneIT	4	Mike took the lead on helping the Student Health Center recently with fax machine communication errors that we had been receiving. This is an issue that campus desktop support employees do not fix, but realizing the importance of fax capabilities to our operations, Mike worked with staff members and his boss, Justin Ashe, to troubleshoot the issue. We now have fax communication flowing smoothly while we research other options going forward. Thank you, Mike! We really appreciate it!

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12/8/2022	Alaina Names-Mattefs	CLAS	6	<p>Alaina has gone way over and beyond her duties as the Director of Graduate Education in CLAS. She worked on the Race and Social Justice working group to recruit and retain graduate students from underserved communities with special emphasis on black graduate students. With the help of a summer graduate student, she identified and generated a living document listing and describing many of the North Carolina's HBCU programs (including the faculty members or chairs affiliated with those programs) for our faculty to network and foster relationships with. This will enable our faculty and students to interact with students and faculty from HBCUs and build a strong relationship. Eventually, this will help with generating a pipeline of graduate students from diverse backgrounds in our graduate programs. After sharing the document widely with our graduate program directors and chairs, we have already seen some successful networking. In November, Biological Sciences along with CLAS hosted 3 program directors from NSF to give presentations and have a round table discussion with our faculty. We had several of our colleagues from 2 HBCUs (Livingstone College and from Johnson C. Smith University) attend the sessions and also participate in the round table. This has generated a tremendous amount of enthusiasm among our faculty and faculty from the HBCUs to do research together and foster undergraduate student research training. This work by Alaina is certainly one of those high-impact initiatives that will continue for years to come.</p> <p>Alaina has also co-authored a chapter for the upcoming book written by Kendra Jason on the race and social justice initiatives to be published by the Atkins Library.</p> <p>Besides this, Alaina is an absolute joy to work with and all the graduate program directors in CLAS look up to her to solve any issues related to graduate students and the programs.</p>
12/13/2022	Richelle Giles	History (EDLD)	6	Richelle came into our department as a temp employee and served us well. She went above and beyond the call of duty. I sincerely appreciate her hard work and support.
12/13/2022	Staci Batchelor	Sociology	6	Staci is just all around wonderful in helping to support the needs of the Sociology Department and its faculty.
12/14/2022	Danelle Lee	CHHS - Business Office	7	Danelle has been with us for just over 14 months now, but has been a true rock star. She began with us last October and jumped right in. She became the veteran on the team quickly, due to turnover, and stepped in wherever she was needed, without complaint. She is a true team player and we are grateful to have her.
12/14/2022	Jeremy Hamilton	School of Nursing	7	Jeremy joined the SON in August 2022 and immediately began making an impact. His welcoming smile and kind words have become the face of the School of Nursing. He has provided exemplar support to the SON faculty, always looking for ways to improve customer service to students, faculty, staff, and visitors. He joined a SON committee, Awards & Recognition, during his first semester of employment and was highly instrumental in planning and executing a 100th birthday party for a UNCC VIP as well as a graduation celebration for students graduating from any SON program in December 2022. Both events would not have been possible without his diligent and thorough attention to detail and consistent follow-up and follow-through with vendors. He has quickly become a very dependable source of assistance as well as a ray of sunshine in our department.
12/14/2022	Kourtney Peterson	Special Projects, University Development	11	Kourtney has jumped right into her position and does her work with grace and competence. She is humble and kind and shows gratitude for being back on campus (she's a member of the class of '16). She makes coming to work more enjoyable, which is immeasurable.
12/3/2022	Zack Newsome	Levine Scholars Program (Undergraduate Admissions)	11	Zack has always been instrumental in undergraduate admissions. He trained and supervised many team members, was in charge of designing and updating admissions info session powerpoint, oversaw whole admissions email communication. I've never seen Zack refuse to step in when needed. In Fall 2022, Zack helped to update international admissions Slate communication, training manual, international checklists, and international website. He was proactive and did everything in a timely manner on top of his multiple other duties. Thank you, Zack!
12/9/2022	Abby Patterson	Popp Martin Student Union	12	A great worker that holds the team together and goes above and beyond for the student union
12/22/2022	Chris Holley	Fleet Management	15 A	I would like to nominate Chris Holley for a Gold Nugget for his hard work to expedite repairs needed on a Grounds Department vehicle that is critical to the campus inclement weather plan. Chris realized the vehicle was not on an active PM plan in Archibus and that the vehicle had not received an oil change since 2014. Chris made this vehicle PM a critical priority and was able to perform the PM service as well as perform a tune-up of the vehicle to ensure that the vehicle would be reliable when needed for inclement weather processes for the Grounds Department. Before Chris left for the winter break he completed all repairs and services and had the vehicle operating in excellent form.
12/12/2022	Stafford Farmer	Office of Research Services	16	Stafford has been my colleague for several years and recently became my supervisor. Stafford is very responsive, courteous, professional and considerate. He is very approachable, open minded, willing to listen instead of just saying "no" and he definitely makes coming to work at UNC Charlotte a very positive and pleasant experience

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12/8/2022	Jenny Vincent	Belk College of Business	18	Jenny is an exceptional leader, and the Belk College is very fortunate to have her overseeing all of our budget and personnel functions. She is thoughtful, cares about the development of her team and all staff in the College, and always keeps what is best for the College and University top of mind. The many staffing changes across the University have made her job much harder since the pandemic, but she continues to engage with her heavy workload with excellence top of mind.