



Golden Nugget Awards – August 2020

Area 1

Lori McMahon

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: For all your help in helping us have a successful close. We appreciate you very much.

Elizabeth Moll

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: For all your help in helping us have a successful close. We appreciate you very much.

Area 2

Monique Wilson

Relationship to nominee: Fellow staff member

Reason for nomination: From what I understand, Monique is short staffed in the Registrar while they are having to re-work the entire fall schedule due to the pandemic for the entire campus. She methodically works with all of us, the schedulers, and painstakingly answers our questions, and works to get the schedule pieces moving to fit together. This takes incredible focus, strict emotional control dealing with enormous amounts of people, and vital strength of character. These are extraordinary circumstances, and I think she has stepped up to the plate to tackle the challenge in a big way. I think she deserves some nuggets of gratitude.

Area 6

Cyndi Hovis

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: Going above and beyond to help clean up a mess that another department made with the Student Award Payments.

Ida Stavenger

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: Going above and beyond to help clean up a mess that another department made with the Student Award Payments. We couldn't have gotten it straighten out with her help.

Area 7

Vivian Cherry

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: Vivian has gone above and beyond during this pandemic. She has supported the ordering and delivery of supplies for Niner University Elementary, our lab school that will open in August. This has been a tremendous task as there are a lot of materials needed to open a school. Vivian has also supported the delivery and dissemination of technology during the pandemic. As you can imagine, we have ordered more than usual to accommodate teleworking. Vivian has graciously helped other staff and faculty as they are working at home and have questions. And she does all of this with her usual pleasant demeanor. I appreciate her so much!

Relationship to nominee: Supervisor

Reason for nomination: I would like to nominate Vivian Cherry for her outstanding work during this year's end of fiscal year purchases. She is responsible for making all technology purchases for the college and ensuring that they get received and invoiced. This year she also had the Niner University Elementary School purchases that needed to be made since the school will be opening up in August 2020. With COVID-19 present and most people working from home, Vivian went to campus many times to help pick up all of these purchases and ensure that they were correct to receive. She also followed up on invoicing.

She never once complained about going to campus. I feel that her work went above and beyond the call of duty especially in these dangerous times. I am proud to have her working in my department.

Micki Crowder

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: Mrs. Micki Crowder is one of the reasons why I loved (pre-COVID-19) to come to the office! She always greeted me with a smile and asked me how I was doing. She is the most efficient person I know as she responds to all my questions and emails promptly and with accuracy. Ms. Crowder is intelligent, has a sharp memory for details, and has a strong understanding of the UNCC guidelines and programs related to budgets, grants, travel, scheduling - you name it, she knows it! I'm deeply appreciative for all of Ms. Crowder's support and wealth of knowledge.

Dee Ellington

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: I would like to nominate Ms. Dee Ellington for a Golden Nugget. This nomination is long overdue. Ms. Dee Ellington is a Business Support Specialist in the Cato COED. For the past four years, Ms. Dee Ellington has provided administrative support for the Cato COED Prospect for Success team. I am the director of this program. Ms. Dee has always gone above and beyond the expectations of her role in providing administrative support. During this COVID-19 pandemic, she has been so helpful with processing orders and materials for the Cato COED PFS team. In fact, even though she was on crutches because of a knee issue, Ms. Dee Ellington met me on campus so that I could pick up books from her office in order to give them to the Cato COED PFS professors so they could have these books to prepare for their fall semester classes of EDUC 1100. I was not aware that Ms. Dee was on crutches until I saw her walking down the hall and felt terrible about the situation. Always the consummate professional, Ms. Dee smiled and said it was just part of her job. However, I believe that this example shows Ms. Dee Ellington's dedication and the exemplary ways she goes beyond the call of duty in order to make sure that COED faculty have the materials they need to teach in the most effective way possible. I am forever grateful to Ms. Dee Ellington for all her work and organization.

Lisa Pickett

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: In these times of very difficult and stressful working conditions, every time I see an email from Lisa Pickett, I get a smile on my face and can't wait to open it. Lisa is such a positive, helpful and all around cheerful person, she could make lemon meringue pie out of lemons. She is still clearly working away each and every day and I love interacting with her at work, even when only remotely. I'm thankful for her continued service to the department and the Cato College of Ed. Thank you, Lisa!!!

Michelle Webb

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: Office of School and Community Partnerships

Reason for nomination: Michelle has quickly learned her role as Office Manager in OSCP. She has increased the time in which it takes to resolve issues, pay contracts, and supported the creation and implementation of standard operating procedures in the office. She has maintained a steady flow of work for the Office Team and helped to organize and revise previous systems and processes. She does this all with a very level head and friendly smile. She has been a true joy to have in this role and I am sincerely grateful.

Area 8

Ryan Mulkeen

Relationship to nominee: Supervisor

Reason for nomination: Ryan has gone above and beyond the past several months to analyze the degree audits of many Computer Science students, and helped them make adjustments to their class schedule, Catalog year, or minor so they may graduate on time or a semester earlier than planned. At least 10 students from spring and summer have benefited from Ryan's investigative work to be able to graduate earlier than expected.

Area 9

Heather Banes

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: For all your help during this challenging and very stressful time. Because of you, we've been able to successfully submit our weekly reports to the state. I appreciate you very much.

Jamette Blue

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: This pandemic has not been an easy one. With all of us working from home and trying to do our jobs still it is stressful. Being one of the many that remoted in everyday I had to hope that my computer was still on at the University. There were many times that it would some how be off and I would panic. Jamette was one of the ones I could always reach out to and she would immediately go turn it back on. If my coworkers ever reached out and said they were having an issue with their computer I would always say Jamette is on campus and can help. I cannot express how helpful the ladies of payroll have been for us while at home. I just wanted to say thank you for all that you have done for us.

Ann Brown

Relationship to nominee: Direct report

Reason for nomination: For all your help during this challenging and very stressful time. I appreciate you very much.

Annette Hamilton

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: I found out recently that Annette and other members of the Payroll department (but the staff said Annette did it most frequently because she came in the earliest) were regularly cleaning the ladies bathrooms in the Reese buildings while we have been in this Covid limited work schedule in which we had a very limited cleaning schedule in our building. Payroll has had to work in the office every day even while under Covid limitations (at least part of each day) but the ladies restrooms in Reese are only cleaned once a week, even though there has been other staff in the building off and on throughout each week. Since Covid spreads so easily, the Payroll staff decided to bring in their own cleaning supplies, and decided to make sure that the restrooms, that everyone used, were cleaned everyday. Annette Hamilton comes in earlier the most staff so she frequently has taken on the task of cleaning the restrooms. I never knew this. I was naive in thinking housekeeping was helping with the cleaning more often. I was amazed and thankful that Annette and all of the Payroll ladies would be so self-less to do this, not just for themselves, but for everyone that use those restrooms. This went way, way, way above and beyond what was expected of her and I appreciate her and wanted to thank her and show her gratitude by nominating her for a golden nugget.

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: This teleworking situation has been less than ideal for all of us. Being one of the many that was remoting in everyday I always had to hope my computer at work was still on, since the office was empty. The first time my computer had been turned off I panicked. Thankfully Annette was in the office and went and turned it back on without hesitation. Sadly I cannot say that this was the only time that happened, I lost count how many times in the months we have been away. But never the less she always helped me the second I reached out. She has always been the biggest help to me since I have been with the department and with this whole remoting situation she has gone above and beyond.

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: Annette has been going above and beyond during this

Pandemic while working in the office. With the cleaning of the restrooms being limited, she has been cleaning the 2nd and 3rd floor restrooms in Reese regularly (daily) with personal supplies brought in from the Payroll Office. This has made everyone's work environment safer and is greatly appreciated by everyone working in the office during this pandemic. Thank you Annette! You are AWESOME!

Jane Hawes

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: Going above and beyond to help clean up a mess that another department made with the Student Award Payments. We couldn't have gotten it straighten out with her help.

Kara Killough

Relationship to nominee: Supervisor

Reason for nomination: For all your help during this challenging and very stressful time. Because of you, we were able to have a successful year-end close. I appreciate you very much.

Alice Patterson

Relationship to nominee: Supervisor

Reason for nomination: For all your help during this challenging and very stressful time. Because of you, we were able to have a successful year-end close. I appreciate you very much.

Carrie Smith

Relationship to nominee: Supervisor

Reason for nomination: For all your help during this challenging and very stressful time. Because of you, we were able to have a successful year-end close. I appreciate you very much.

Greg Verret

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: For all your help during this challenging and very stressful time. I appreciate you very much.

Hong Vu

Relationship to nominee: Supervisor

Reason for nomination: For all your help during this challenging and very stressful time. Because of you, we were able to have a successful year-end close. I appreciate you very much.

Laura Williams

Relationship to nominee: Co-worker

Reason for nomination: For all your help during this challenging and very stressful time. Because of you, we've been able to successfully submit our weekly reports to the state. I appreciate you very much

Rebecca Wilson

Relationship to nominee: Supervisor

Reason for nomination: For all your help during this challenging and very stressful time. Because of you, we were able to have a successful year-end close. I appreciate you very much.

Area 11**Nathaniel "Lee" Snodgrass**

Relationship to nominee: Fellow staff member

Reason for nomination: Towards the end of FY20, we were expecting a delivery of furniture. All administrators know how important it is to 'receive' items on time so that expenses can be paid on time for the end of the fiscal year. This was early June. I had been waiting for this furniture to arrive for over a month, checking the delivery date for weeks. On the day of its arrival, the electrical system was down in Macy. We were on the second floor! The furniture guys weren't going to carry it up the steps themselves. They were only two men and the cooling system was down. I don't remember how it happened, but I think I just happened upon Lee at the right moment at the right time? Maybe he knew the movers were coming? In any case, to me it was like a miracle. Who knows when they were going to come back to deliver this furniture if they were to leave! After hearing my plight, he had about five guys on site in just a few minutes to help the movers carry each piece of furniture up the steps to save the day. He could have just explained the situation, that they were working on the building, and it was impossible to use the elevator today, and I'd have to re-schedule. But he didn't. He took the extra time to help me and help the movers to get the job done. I was very grateful! Thanks Lee!