

Golden Nugget Award Recipients - October 2022

Date of submission	Nominee's Name	Nominee's Department	Area #	Reason for nomination
10/12/2022	Jessica Simonik	University Career Center	3	Jessie is a rock star! Over the last few weeks, Jessie hosted a jam packed week FULL of events during the Business Financial Services Logistics Career Community week! The student attendance at the events were the highest ever and the student feedback has been phenomenal. Jessie also hosted the Overnight Career Trek to Raleigh for 14 lucky students to get special access to employers. The Trek had lots of hiccups but Jessie and her fearless team continued to press on ensuring students had an amazing experience. Another reason to celebrate Jessie is her new opportunity as the Associate Director for Career Programs! As she enters this new role, she will shine like always and like never before! You're amazing, Jessie! Thank you for being a difference maker!
10/18/2022	Brian Bard	One IT	4	Brian delivered on a project that was a heavy lift by engaging and integrating departments with in Student Affairs, Business Affairs and Academic Affairs. He worked quickly to set us all up for success. His hard work and dedication to get this project over the finish line was excellent! We are beyond grateful for his service to our departments!
10/27/2022	Brian Bard	Office of OneIT	4	Brian has gone above and beyond these past few months in supporting the food pantry staff with the roll out of the new Food Pantry Helper. His assistance on this project has been integral. Brian has met challenge after challenge head on with a positive attitude, a wealth of knowledge, and a fantastic sense of humor! I truly do not know what we would have done without Brian's assistance on this project.
10/19/2022	Aleksander Shqevi	Housing and Residence Life	5	Aleksander Shqevi pays great attention to detail, when he is taking care of guest housing. He greets the residents and the staff as he sees them, and is a dedicated worker.
10/19/2022	Bill Ballinger	Housing and Residence Life	5	Mr. William Ballinger (Bill) is always working hard, He pays attention to details, never hesitates and will do anything asked of him. I have received several compliments from various department Supervisors and staff on how well Bill is doing, how helpful he is, and his great attitude. Thank you Mr. Bill for everything you do!
10/18/2022	Emma Halchin	Housing and Residence Life	5	She has done an amazing job stepping into the LKD role and shown a lot of excitement and passion for the position.
10/19/2022	Lakisha Johnson	Housing and Residence Life	5	I truly believe that Lakisha Johnson has proven to be one outstanding individual. She has managed to take on tasks with professional results, from staff issues. She is working hard at learning her staff and building up their more. There is no doubt in my mind of her abilities to help our staff and guest and other departments with a positive outcome.
10/18/2022	Linda Thomas	Housing and Residence Life	5	Linda has done an amazing job in her position so far. She has an eye for detail, listens to the RECs like me and has really taken the time to get to know us. I value her as a co-worker!
10/18/2022	Sabrina Banjo	Housing and Residence Life	5	For all your work with the RLC and putting together events for the pro-staff.
10/19/2022	Sidney Hinson	Housing and Residence Life	5	Sid is a bright spot in not just Martin or HRL but all of campus! He is incredibly hardworking and helpful, always offering to lend a hand with whatever he can do. He goes above and beyond in all of his tasks and keeps Martin afloat. Thank you for all that you do and for being so great!
10/19/2022	Silvia Garza	Housing and Residence Life	5	What can I say about Mrs. Silvia Garza except WOW. Silvia is outstanding and a pleasure to work with, we wish we could clone her! She takes pride in everything she does, is dependable and does an amazing job juggling areas, between the North zone of campus. She is always available to step in and help in any area of housekeeping as needed. Thank you Silvia for everything you do!
10/19/2022	Star Watson	Housing and Residence Life	5	Star is always working hard, she pays attention to details, never hesitates and will do anything asked of her. She is always on time. Star is a great team player with the department and guest services and she always has a positive attitude. She goes over and beyond with her staff to show she appreciates them.
10/19/2022	Ted Barti	Lockshop - HRL	5	Ted is so helpful and hardworking. He is extremely diligent, kind, and communicative. If there's ever an issue, he makes it as easy as possible for all. Thank you, Ted!
10/21/2022	Ebony Dunham	Office of Interdisciplinary Studies - CLAS	6	Ebony schedules the Interdisciplinary Studies classes for each term. This is a monster of a job with multiple programs and an unbelievable number of cross-listings. She does her work with kindness, a smile, and professionalism.
10/3/2022	Karyn Williamson-Coria	Interdisciplinary Studies - CLAS	6	I was hired as an Administrative Support Associate in August, and Karyn has gone above and beyond to show me the ropes in a way that is kind and professional. She has taken time out of her day to come to my desk to answer questions on more than one occasion. She has helped me understand the different systems and portals that UNCC uses. She is always kind and takes her time to help me understand how to execute certain necessary tasks in my role. I know she will respond to an inquiry when I need help, and that is a great support to me in my work and an asset to UNCC.
10/21/2022	Karyn Williamson-Coria	Office of Interdisciplinary Studies - CLAS	6	Karyn has gone above and beyond helping to prepare for our nationally recognized speaker, Ashton Applewhite. This event became much more involved than we anticipated. We could not have done it without her help!

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10/3/2022	Vicky Harris	Global Studies - CLAS	6	I started in my role as the RELS Administrative Support Associate in August of this year, and Vicky has been a huge help to me on a regular basis. First off, she helped me place my first order in 49erMart, and she taught me the proper way to receive the items. Because I didn't have Banner schedule training, she took on building the majority of the RELS spring schedule in Banner, and after I did have the training she spent time with me assisting me in building some courses. She always responds when I have a question about the various tasks, and UNCC portals. She even shared some of her tried and true ways of organization that have been very helpful. Vicky is a true asset to UNCC
10/20/2022	Jane Hawes	Controller	9	I had problem after problem with an international travel and she was so helpful and helped me push through to complete the process with all the different steps.
10/28/2022	Shannon Homesley	Office of Academic Affairs	9	Shannon is the definition of someone who goes above and beyond. Her job title is Executive Assistant to the Provost, but she truly assists everyone in our office. Shannon is heavily involved in many of our operations; I cannot imagine how many projects she's involved in, how much work she does, or how she keeps up with it all. Despite how busy she is, she's always willing to help, whether it's answering questions, organizing events, covering responsibilities of someone who's absent, or lending an extra set of eyes to a document. On top of that, she has an incredible amount of knowledge - any time I have a question, no matter how obscure, I know that Shannon will be able to point me in the right direction. Shannon is an indispensable resource to everyone in our office. She is a major reason that our operations run as smoothly as they do. I admire her dedication, knowledge, and kindness. I'm sure that it is a busy and stressful time for her right now with the new Provost starting soon; I hope she knows that her hard work is greatly appreciated!
10/21/2022	Bronwyn Jarsocrak	Safety and Security	10	Bronwyn has taken over business officer duties in absence of her unit's business officer. She has been a pleasure to train and work with on budget matters. She is open to learning new policies and procedures and regularly reaches out for guidance. She consistently takes initiative and once shown a process, she's able to quickly adapt it to meet her unit's needs. She's done an exceptional job learning our complex budgets. So glad she's a part of the Business Affairs team!
10/13/2022	Adam Wassell	University Advancement	11	Adam is taking the reigns on the Alumni Association as interim director during one of the absolute busiest times of year for that position. He is doing so with grace, confidence and getting the job done. I feel like we are all impressed by his work and proud of our colleague for stepping up and killing it!
10/31/2022	Shayauna Newsom	Transition & Success Initiatives - Dean of Students	11	Shay has gone above and beyond in every aspect of their work, especially in supervising their students. However, I am mostly nominating for their work in creating programming for First-Generation Celebration Week for our First-Gen Niners, including but not limited to a celebration day, mixer, cookout, resource fair, and support group. Additionally, Shay is amplifying the voices of our first-gen Niners on campus. Shay is doing this for the first time as a new staff member and exceeding expectations!
10/17/2022	Darion Quick	BES&R	12	While responding to a flood in one of the academic buildings, Darion was asked to assist with the flood. Without hesitation, he jumped right in and helped unload the flood equipment, then proceeded to run the extractor to remove the water. The flood was extensive and cut into Darion's scheduled lunch time. He did not hesitate to continue assisting with the flood until all of the water was removed. Flood recovery is not a typical function for Darion. His assistance was much appreciated. Thank you Darion!
10/6/2022	Deborah Deese	BES	12	She is very helpful and friendly. She seem to always know what we need and does it before we ever have to ask.
10/19/2022	Dr. Emily Brown	Counseling and Psychological Services	13	I want to nominate Dr. Emily Brown for this recognition for the many ways she has gone above and beyond this semester, while also transitioning into her new role as Asst. Director of Outreach and Community Engagement in CAPS. While learning a new role and navigating new responsibilities, she lead the planning and implementation of CAPS signature program Fall Festival. She also has worked to transform CAPS' student advisory board into the mental health peer educator program, for the first time ever offering consistent student-led programs and workshops for their peers. She also chaired a search for a mental health educator to help the center grow staff to better serve the campus community's needs as it relate to suicide prevention. While taking on these tasks, she has remained a consistent source of support and thoughtful consultation to colleagues during CAPS time of leadership transition. Dr. Brown has demonstrated a commitment to the campus community far beyond the scope of her role, making her more than deserving of this recognition.
10/19/2022	Kelly Hilton	Business Services - 49er Card Services	16	Our department has experienced significant turnover in leadership over the past year, which has required Kelly to assume an interim role taking on additional tasks and responsibilities outside our office. Additionally, due to a project rollout, I could not focus on filling a vacant position on my team that has been vacant since January. Even though Kelly was learning a new position and stretched thin, she jumped in and helped with the job posting. No matter how much work she has on her plate, she always has a smile on her face. She makes herself available and takes the time to help wherever needed. I am forever grateful for her assistance and willingness to help me in my time of need.

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10/24/2022	Toriano Gray	Parking and Transportation Services	16	I wanted to take a moment to recognize an employee who has gone above and beyond his role by filling in many gaps while two other supervisors are out on leave. Toriano willingly adjusted his schedule to provide more effective supervisor coverage during the day, and has taken on several new responsibilities and duties while our colleagues are out of the office. Toriano led the Transportation Fair on the day of the event, has started handling the very time-consuming process of charter transportation requests, and has been instrumental in testing and implementing our new paratransit dispatch software. I'm truly appreciative of the hard work and dedication he has demonstrated these past several weeks. Thank you, thank you, thank you!
10/3/2022	Charles Caldwell	Student union	17	attendance and helpful
10/20/2022	Charles Caldwell	Student union	17	Great job!!! running the building on weekends.
10/31/2022	Donna Merck	Cone University Center	17	With the shifting and changing of the University's structure, Donna was asked to lead a project to move her team along with two others through a space renovation and move in the midst of a complicated supply-chain timeframe. Donna has supported her team along with the other folks moving into the space as they worked through the renovation and various temporary and permanent moves. Thank you for your flexibility Donna!
10/31/2022	Emily Teitelbaum	Student Venues & Engagement	17	Emily was instrumental in the planning and coordination of signature UNC Charlotte events for Homecoming/Niner Nation Week and Haunted Union (Halloween festival & haunted house program). Emily has also provided ample support, encouragement, and recognition to her supervisees and the students under her leadership. Emily continues to be a champion for initiating staff bonding activities, leadership development, and office morale. Additionally, she makes it a priority to help new Niners (employees) feel welcome and find community. Emily values energy, empathy, and enthusiasm and we are grateful for how these attributes show up in her work.
10/31/2022	Emily Teitelbaum	Student Venues & Engagement	17	Emily brought incredible creativity, planning, and collaboration to this year's Haunted Union! After two years of shifting and pivoting, Emily pulled off the best program I have seen in several years. Thank you Emily!
10/31/2022	Jamar Whitfield	Student Venues & Engagement	17	Jamar made UNC Charlotte's Homecoming an great celebration and success! He supported the Campus Activities Board in several events and led initiatives as part of the Student Involvement team. Thank you Jamar!
10/31/2022	Jes Dormady	Leadership & Community Engagement - Student Venues	17	Jes just keeps rolling with whatever comes at her! The University added faculty/staff access to the Jamil Niner Student Pantry this summer as a trial run and then decided to continue this service. Additionally, Jes has added a new client system to better support the folks who need access to the Pantry. And if that is not enough, she is in the process of reviewing the organization to ensure its' sustainability long term. Great work!
10/31/2022	Karen Shaffer	Student Venues & Engagement	17	Ashley went above and beyond to celebrate UNC Charlotte's Homecoming! She supported the Campus Activities Board in several events including the first concert on campus in several years and led initiatives as part of the Student Involvement team. Thank you Ashley!
10/28/2022	Kawon Taylor	Building environmental services - Student Union	17	Kawon helped a father and son play a game of pool. They're here for homecoming weekend. The father doesn't have a uncc I.D. to load for the pool table. Kawon used his card to pay for the game.
10/28/2022	Ki Ye Yang	Building environmental services	17	ABOVE and BEYOND supervisor. Always willing to work with her crew and other shifts to make sure the job is done.
10/3/2022	Koisey Dahn	Student union	17	Great attendance
10/26/2022	Kyahdric Moses	Student Union	17	Kyahdric has been vital in helping Niner Finances create a unique brand that is garnering national attention. His creativity and consistency in his illustrative process has given our department an edge in the development of financial education tool sand resources that students and community members are drawn to. On numerous occasions people have commented on the illustrations that Niner Finances uses and they are usually blown away by the fact that we have someone on staff that can do that for us. I have so much gratitude for Kyhadric and his work.
10/28/2022	Lili Pinto	Building environmental services - Student Union	17	Team player all the time
10/31/2022	Mikala Harvey	Leadership & Community Engagement	17	Mikala has rebuilt the community engagement program within Student Affairs with great success as seen by the attendance for Goldrush Day of Service and the continued growth of the community development program from that first week of classes. Awesome work Mikala!
10/27/2022	Nick Wells	Student Union	17	Nick is one of the nicest and respectable people I have come in contact with at the Student Union. When I see him, he is always working and always ready to help out anyone who needs help. I don't know Nick and he doesn't know me, but I feel in my heart he is a great worker and a great asset to the Student Union..... NEVER CHANGE that about yourself, you're making heads turn with what you do I promise you.
10/3/2022	Rex Kearney	Student Union	17	Always helpful and attendance is great
10/28/2022	Rex Kearney	Building environmental services - Student Union	17	Team player all the time