

July 2025 Golden Nuggets

Date of submission	Nominee's Name	Nominee's Department	Area #	Reason for nomination
7/1/2025	Maria Bard	Student Health	13	<p>As the Director of Student Health, I feel truly fortunate to have someone like Maria on our team. She has been instrumental in guiding Student Health through the transition to a new electronic health record system.</p> <p>Maria has led every step of the process with thoughtfulness, asking the right questions, staying positive, and maintaining an upbeat attitude about the change. What's even more commendable is that she has taken on this significant responsibility in addition to her regular duties.</p> <p>Her leadership, dedication, and resilience have made a meaningful difference for our team during this important transition.</p>
7/2/2025	Colin Lamb	Housing and Residence Life	5	<p>Colin's leadership skills, innovative ideas, and determination have repurposed Belk Hall into a place people want to live and work in. He has sourced entertainment options for the residents' enjoyment - arcade machines, new ping pong and pool tables - in order to build community. His seasonal decorations have been a source of surprise and joy for Belk residents.</p> <p>He challenged the RA staff to reach a higher level of performance and he repaired misgivings the returning staff had about the REC/RA workspace. He gave the Belk RAs a sense of pride in the job and a sense of excitement in supporting each other. With genuine communication, consistent attention to details and processes, strong time management skills, and leading by example with confidence, he established good rapport with the Belk LKO, North Village RAs and DAs. His strategic marketing use of social media awoke residents to opportunities for fellowship in Belk and North Village. These ingredients led to the most programs offered and the best attended programs in Belk's 13 year history. The Belk staff won the "Staff of the Year" award in April 2025, bringing home the first award ever for Belk at the end of year banquet.</p> <p>Colin is a supportive colleague to his co-RECs and is often a sounding board and a guide for new RECs in joining the team. He was chair of the Desk Operations and Residential Initiatives and assisted with the rebuild of the Desk Operations web page, and other streamlining/reformatting projects. He is extremely efficient and organized when closing a building. He processes directives and disseminates information to staff and residents, and gives support to leadership staff during interims periods.</p> <p>Colin respects HRL's policies and procedures and expects others to do the same. He delivers expectations and constructive criticism with encouragement in a direct manner, and he focuses on best practices and positive steps with students and staff members. He was able to help a long-time Belk resident who was previously overlooked by past Belk RECs, modify their behavior in a positive way.</p> <p>Colin can assess a situation quickly and make an action plan. He takes the initiative to manage problems so problems don't manage him.</p>
7/3/2025	Mildred O'Neal	BES Staff at The Dubois Center Center City Building	18	<p>I am honored to nominate Mildred O'Neal for the Golden Nugget Award. Over the past few months, Mildred has gone above and beyond in every way, stepping up during a critical time while her supervisor has been on leave. Without being asked, Mildred took the initiative to ensure operations continued smoothly—taking charge, solving problems, and providing steady leadership with little oversight.</p> <p>Despite the significant additional responsibilities she's taken on, Mildred has continued to manage her own workload with excellence. She approaches every task with a positive attitude and is always willing to lend a helping hand to others. Her kindness, reliability, and radiant smile bring light to everyone around her.</p> <p>Her dedication has not gone unnoticed—colleagues throughout the building frequently comment on her exceptional work ethic and the pride she takes in everything she does. Mildred is truly an outstanding employee and deserves to be recognized for her unwavering commitment, initiative, and grace under pressure.</p>
7/10/2025	Anthony Samagaio	One-IT	4	<p>Anthony was quick to help with an Imaging Issue and was readily available to assist with helping the unit in continuous processing within this system. He is open to new ideas and solutions and was very pleasant when providing assistance and fabulous customer service.</p>
7/10/2025	Justin Ashe	Client Engagement	4	<p>I would like to nominate Justin Ashe for his outstanding patience and exceptional customer service. Justin consistently goes above and beyond to support end users, addressing their concerns with empathy, professionalism, and a calm, solution-focused approach.</p>
7/11/2025	Andrea Toliver	COED- Office of School & Community Partnerships	7	<p>Andrea has worked very hard as she transitioned from her role as Administrative Support Associate to Business Services Coordinator in OSCP. During her transition, she continued with her ASA tasks while learning about her new complex role. This allowed the office to keep moving forward as we hired her replacement. I have been impressed with the time and commitment that Andrea has put into being our new (and wonderful!) Business Services Coordinator.</p>

July 2025 Golden Nuggets

Date of submission	Nominee's Name	Nominee's Department	Area #	Reason for nomination
7/28/2025	Jesh Humphrey	Office of Legal Affairs	1	I'm nominating Jesh not only for mastering the skill of adding another person to a Zoom conference call, but also for his ongoing support for Student Accountability & Conflict Resolution staff as we have navigated changes to federal and state law and Code revisions. Most recently, Jesh provided guidance for a complicated student issue that overlapped with several offices on campus and local and federal law enforcement. With his help and consideration of all those involved, we were able to come to a swift resolution.
7/30/2025	Monica Perez	Venue Management-SAC	14	I just want to thank you for saving our supervisor's life. You are a hero with a big heart plus a great employee always giving the best of you.