

February 2026 Golden Nuggets

Date of submission	Nominee's Name	Nominee's Department	Area #	Reason for nomination
2/2/2026	Rebecca Waterson	Graduate School - Recruitment Team	1	Rebecca Waterson plays a vital role in the success of our monthly Recruitment Consortium newsletter. Rebecca thoughtfully pulls each issue together, transforming ideas and updates into a polished, visually engaging newsletter that consistently receives positive feedback. Her attention to detail, design expertise, and reliability help ensure the newsletter is informative, builds community, and meaningfully connects readers to the evolving enrollment landscape. Month after month, her behind-the-scenes work elevates our messaging and strengthens engagement across campus. This work truly would not be possible without her contributions, and her impact is felt well beyond what's visible on the page.
2/4/2026	April Faucette	Botanical Gardens	6 - Recieved Nugget for October	I am nominating our entire Botanical Gardens team for their hard work and dedication on 3 recent events. In less than one month we had 2 large , scheduled events, Woodland Wonderfest and the Fall Plant Sale. Each of these events are huge undertakings for our staff. Right in between we had Cadavera the Corpse Flower bloom. This is a last minute event that the team pulled together beautifully. We put up lights, made stickers, created signage, plastered social media, and on and on. We hosted approximately 7500 guests that visited Cadavera. We stayed open and received visitors until 2am the day Cadavera opened to allow guests the opportunity to "enjoy" the smell and see the full opening. There was a joyous feel in the air while some waited over 2 hours in line to visit! The staff worked a VERY long day that day, to return the next morning to open the plant sale for it's members and campus community. I cannot thank the staff enough for their dedication and hard work on these events and the gardens in general!
2/6/2026	Cindy Calloway	BES Student union	17	During the C-2 Ice storm and the C-2 Snow storm, Cindy was here during both times making sure the build and our guests were taken care. Cindy is a role model for what a employee should look like always ready to do what needs done for the campus and the Student Union and the students. Thank you for all you do!
2/6/2026	Kawon Taylor	BES Student union	17	Kawon has shown time and time again he is a team player. During C-2 snow storm Kawon was here on campus doing what needed to be done making sure the Student union and all of the guests was taken care of. Kawon also made sure that the other staff working had a ride from the hotel to the building and back again. I thank you for all you do each and everyday.
2/6/2026	Danny Dang	Fire Systems	15B	Job well done
2/6/2026	Harrison Wells	BES Student Union	17	During the C-2 winter storm Nick came in and worked on campus making sure the student union was ready for students and guests. Nick is a team player to the campus as well as to the student union. Thank you for all you do.
2/6/2026	Charles Caldwell	BES Student Union	17	During the C-2 winter storm Charles came in and work making sure the building was up to par for the next day so the students and guests were taken care of. Charles is a team player. Thank you for all you do!!
2/9/2026	Cheryl Whitley	School of Social Work	7	I am pleased to nominate Cheryl for her dedication and reliability during my recent leave. In my absence, she handled every task with thoroughness and professionalism. I anticipated returning to a backlog of items that might have been delayed without her support, but instead, I came back to a smoothly managed workload with no issues to address. I sincerely appreciate all she has done to support our team, and I'm truly grateful for the care she took to keep everything running smoothly.
2/11/2026	Suseel Pallapu	OneIT Enterprise Applications	4	I have worked closely with Suseel for years and greatly appreciate his teamwork with me as well as our newer staff members. Suseel is very willing and available to share his knowledge, especially helping newer staff members to gain and apply that knowledge for years to come. Along the way this also builds the relationships and the confidence in one another's expertise and being part of cross department teams.
2/13/2026	Jacob Kennedy, @jkenne71@charlotte.edu	Recycling - Facilities Management	12	We are so lucky to have Jacob as a UNC Charlotte colleague. He is truly a joy to work alongside—his constant smile and warm, positive personality brighten the office and make even the busiest days better. Jacob brings an infectious energy that lifts those around him and reflects his genuine care for the campus community. Through his work in the recycling department, he plays a meaningful role in keeping UNC Charlotte sustainable and helping the university live out its commitment to environmental responsibility. We love you Jacob!
2/17/2026	Macy Penland	ETCM - Academic Advising	8	Macy has graciously and enthusiastically accepted the challenge our department has faced for many years - updating our website. Our department website has been something that many have agreed was something that needed to be updated but few have taken the time and effort required to make any changes. Macy has asked questions and gathered feedback and information. She has jumped right into something that wasn't her doing but something that she is excited to update and elevate. She has taken the time to learn how to use wordpress and has made time to make significant changes to the website with the collaboration from a few others in the department. I wanted to make sure her work went noticed since she has actually put into action things that others have only previously complained about and has done so with a great attitude. I couldn't not have made any of the changes I have been trying to get added for years if it wasn't for her!
2/19/2026	Tracy Beauregard	Registrar Office	2	There have been quite a few comments made that reflect the work she has done with the staff council newsletter. Tracy does a great job obtaining content, organizing the stores and getting it out on in timely manner each month. Great job!

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2/23/2026	Ashley Clark	Enrollment Management - Niner Central	2	<p>Housing and Residence Life (HRL), in partnership with Admissions, recently implemented a requirement that students must submit their Intent to Enroll before applying for on-campus housing.</p> <p>Unfortunately this new requirement introduced some unexpected pain points; specifically, several students were incorrectly blocked from applying despite having submitted their Intent to Enroll weeks or months prior.</p> <p>As I have limited knowledge of the inner workings of Banner, Ashley proved to be an invaluable resource. She was instrumental in identifying where the relevant Admissions data lived within Banner and helped decipher why some students were being blocked. Her expertise allowed OneIT and HRL to brainstorm solutions to mitigate future issues and reduce confusion for students and overhead for staff. Thanks to her insight, we were able to identify areas for improvement and implement enhancements that have significantly strengthened the housing application process.</p> <p>Above all, Ashley was professional, responsive, and thorough in her explanations. It was a pleasure working with her, and I look forward to future collaborations between Enrollment Management, OneIT, and HRL.</p>
2/24/2026	Jackson Opper	Parking	16	<p>The Transportation Team was short staffed and missing a dispatcher. I called the Comm Center and spoke to Jackson, asking if him and his team would be able to help answering calls for approx. 45 minutes. While covering the dispatch line, Jackson took it upon himself to go through the call logs and look for any missed calls. Calling each missed caller back, apologizing that we had missed their call and asking if they still needed assistance. Great initiative and customer service to our program members.</p>
2/26/2026	Abdala Rosas	BES	12	<p>Abdala Rosas deserves recognition for her outstanding dedication and exceptional work ethic. She consistently goes above and beyond to ensure the Atkins Zone (Atkins Library , Reese , Colvard and King Building). She is always friendly, professional, and willing to help with any request, no matter how big or small. We can see how the building gradually comes to life ,which is a direct reflection of her hard work and pride in what she does. She is truly a valuable asset to our team, Her efforts do not go unnoticed, and we sincerely appreciate all that she does."</p>
2/27/2026	Patricia Quinn	Atkins Library	1	<p>I lost a library book. Patricia worked with me so that I could either search my house for the book or purchase the book from a website she suggested for less than \$5 rather than pay the \$100 in fees that I would have had to pay the library to replace the book.</p>
2/27/2026	Jalen Little	CHHS Advising Center	7	<p>Jalen continues to go above and beyond to support prospective students at UNC Charlotte!! He is willing to lead our CHHS presentations for admissions events (a task usually done by our Associate Dean or Director) and feedback from parents, students, and professionals are always that he is engaging, supportive, and funny. He sometimes works after hours to ensure students get the support they need. Most recently he was tapped to present to community college advisors to help them understand the complexities of CHHS majors, including the recent launch of two online programs. The coordinator of that event provided feedback that he was enthusiastic. Jalen cultivates positive relationships with everyone he meets - he is someone that can be relied on and is a great representative of CHHS!</p>
2/27/2026	Marta Falcon	CHHS Advising Center	7	<p>Marta was instrumental in leading the CHHS Advising teams first graduation clearance process which oversaw ensuring 500+ students met requirements to graduate this Spring. This process was completely foreign to 7 members of the team and under Marta's leadership she trained and served as a resource as individual advisors learned the process. This included management of an everchanging application list. She reviewed lists every week from December through February and communicated with the team. When teammates were overwhelmed she jumped in to offer help and take on additional loads. I am thankful for her expertise and willingness to help implement a huge part of the advising process for CHHS students!</p>