

April 2026 Golden Nuggets

Date of submission	Nominee's Name	Nominee's Department	Area #	Reason for nomination
3/31/2026	Tracy Burks	Mail and Package Services	16	Tracy is an outstanding employee. One of Tracy's greatest skills is her customer service. She is very courteous and polite and assists customers with whatever they need. Tracy is particularly skilled in educating the students on how to properly address their mail to ensure there are no delivery delays.
4/2/2026	Richard A. Nash	Army ROTC	No Area.	Rick Nash consistently goes above and beyond to support our Undergraduate Admissions recruitment efforts. He serves as a vital bridge between the Army ROTC department and prospective students, always bringing a warm smile and positive energy to every interaction. Rick is never too busy to assist; whether it is volunteering his time to speak with prospective families, providing clear and thoughtful answers to staff inquiries, or actively participating in recruitment events, his dedication is unwavering. His willingness to collaborate and assist students makes him a valued campus partner of our Undergraduate Admissions team!
4/7/2026	Prospect Strategy & Research Team	Foundation Office	11	I want to nominate the entire team (Emily Allegro, Andi Marrs, and Holland Elana) their outstanding work for helping our team prepare, execute, and steward our donors this record setting Niner Nation Gives. But more importantly highlight them in being the best PSR team our Office could ask for! There is a reason our team continues to succeed and they are very much a part of it.
4/8/2026	southeast zone BES team	wilson and levine hall and HRL	5	"The Southeast Zone BES team consistently goes above and beyond to ensure that Wilson and Levine Halls are not just clean, but welcoming environments for our students. Their attention to detail and proactive approach to maintaining these high-traffic areas reflects a 'Gold Standard' commitment to campus life. They truly make UNC Charlotte sparkle through their tireless work ethic."
4/8/2026	Bailey Nelson	Alumni Engagement	11	I am proud to nominate Bailey for a Golden Nugget Award. She has truly become a light within our office, bringing a level of positivity, energy, and willingness to support others that elevates everyone around her. Bailey consistently shows up for her teammates with a genuine eagerness to help, and her collaborative spirit has made a meaningful impact on our team culture. This year, she especially stood out during Niner Nation Gives. Bailey stepped up in a big way, working closely with college leadership and key partners to plan and execute engaging events while also helping organize and drive unit strategy for the campaign. Her ability to build strong relationships, stay organized, and keep momentum moving forward was critical to the success of our efforts. Bailey's dedication, attitude, and impact embody what it means to go above and beyond. We are incredibly fortunate to have her on our team, and she is more than deserving of this recognition.
4/8/2026	Bridget Anderson	Urban Institute	3	Bridget has been an amazing part of the Urban Institute for years, but has really gone above and beyond with her work with the IDEA program. It has served local non-profit organizations and provided important training during a challenging few years of shifting funding and regularly gets highlighted as one of UI's successful programs. It would not exist or be thriving like it is currently without Bridget's thoughtful and diligent leadership. She has also always been an active participant in supporting the Urban Institute's mission, as well as her coworkers and their work. I hope she can be celebrated with a Golden Nugget before she departs the University on 4/28 for her next chapter!
4/8/0026	Carla Soto	Athletics	14	Carla is key to the SAC success, She is a very dedicated employee her attention to detail is excellent. I really appreciate to have her in my team.
4/8/2026	Tina Regan	Athletics {SAC}	14	Thank you for your dedication to our department, we appreciate your hard work.
4/13/2026	James Mohundro	Building Interiors	15B	I just wanted to share my appreciation for and kudos to Jim Mohundro. He has been helping us move in the Foundation 300 Annex and he is absolutely delightful. He took pride in his work, did it well, left the space clean, and was a pleasure to talk to. It's clear he's a great guy and giving FM a great name! This email was submitted to me by a costumer
4/13/2026	Mike Watt	Building INT	15B	Mike Watt and Joe Coleman designed and built a walnut display case and carrying case to house the university mace. Mike and Joe always take great pride in their work and this display case is just another example of that.
4/13/2026	Joe Coleman	Building INT	15B	Mike and Joe designed and built a beautiful walnut display and carrying case to house the university mace. Mike and Joe always take great pride in their work and this is just another example of that.
4/20/2026	Logan Homesley	Applied Physiology, Health, and Clinical Sciences	7	Logan stepped in recently to help fill a vacancy of the administrative support role for the CHHS Advising team. Whether in person, via email, or through chat, she is consistently available and approachable. Her responsiveness ensures that projects never stall, she is quick to provide university guidance when it comes to policy and procedures, and she proactively addresses office needs. Her support has lightened the mental load and boosted morale for our entire team.

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4/21/2026	Olesia Angelova	CHESS - Business Services Coordinator for Department of Philosophy	6	<p>I would like to nominate Olesia Angelova, Business Services Coordinator in the Department of Philosophy, for her outstanding dedication, professionalism, and consistently exceptional service. Olesia goes above and beyond her role to ensure that business and administrative processes are handled accurately, efficiently, and with great care for faculty, staff, and students alike.</p> <p>Olesia is highly knowledgeable, responsive, and proactive in navigating complex financial and administrative matters. She consistently provides clear guidance, anticipates potential issues, and works diligently to find solutions, often well beyond standard expectations. Her attention to detail and commitment to compliance help prevent delays and errors, saving time and reducing stress for everyone involved.</p> <p>What truly sets Olesia apart is her collaborative spirit and willingness to help others succeed. She approaches every request with patience, professionalism, and a positive attitude, regardless of urgency or complexity. Her reliability and strong work ethic make her a trusted and invaluable partner across departments.</p> <p>Olesia's contributions have a meaningful impact on day-to-day operations and exemplify the Gold Standard values of UNC Charlotte. She truly helps our campus sparkle, and her hard work deserves to be recognized and celebrated.</p>
4/23/2026	Chris Walls	First-Year Transition Programs	3	<p>Chris is deserving of recognition because he is the exemplar of a partner. His unwavering commitment to showing up and showing out for our First-Generation students is what makes the work so easy. He has been present for every single event, offering hands-in and hands-on support. These events could not have happened without his support. Additionally, co-leading F1GS with him is a gift and feels just as rewarding as the programs do. I am deeply grateful for his collaboration and partnership.</p>
4/23/2026	Lorenzo Hopper	Epidemiology and Community Health	Faculty	<p>Lorenzo champions First-Generation student support each and every day. As a committed member of F1GS, advisor of First Gen Niners student org, and overall First-Gen Champ, he maintains what it means to be of service. His history of support has been one of consistent commitment and we are lucky to have his partnership, leadership, and support. Our initiatives are better because of him.</p>
4/23/2026	Lydia Rodriguez	College of Computing and Informatics	8	<p>Lydia is deserving of a Golden Nugget Award because of their dedication to serving First-Generation students. Lydia helped First-Generation students feel seen and welcomed during First-Gen Appreciation Day & First-Gen Excellence Celebration. These events could not have happened without her support. Thank you Lydia!!!!</p>
4/23/2026	Rachel-Powell Rangel	Engineering Technology and Construction Management	8	<p>Rachel is deserving of a Golden Nugget Award because of their dedication to serving First-Generation students. Rachel helped First-Generation students feel seen and welcomed during First-Gen Appreciation Day & First-Gen Excellence Celebration. These events could not have happened without her support. Rachel is such a joy to work alongside as well!!! Thank you Rachel!!!</p>
4/23/2026	Laura Pagani	The Center for Graduate Life & Learning	1	<p>Laura is deserving of a Golden Nugget Award because of her dedication to serving First-Generation students. Laura helped setup during First-Gen Appreciation Day, ensuring the event was all ready to go for when hundreds of students arrived. This event could not have happened without her support. Thank you Laura!!</p>
4/24/2026	Alex Reynolds	University Communications	11	<p>Alex is deserving of a Golden Nugget Award because of his dedication to serving First-Generation students. Alex helped setup during First-Gen Appreciation Day, ensuring the event was all ready to go for when hundreds of students arrived. This event could not have happened without his support. Thank you Alex!!</p>
4/27/2026	Courtney Burton	CHHS Advising Center	7	<p>Courtney is overseeing New Student Orientation modules and leading the NSO advising process for the CHHS Advising team this summer. Even without seeing the life cycle before, Courtney was quick to jump in to review previous content with a meticulous eye. She made edits and improvements to ensure that new students had everything they needed for their transition to college. She created new academic course plans for all majors, updated our standard operating procedures, and communicated impactfully with all stakeholders. Onboarding 1000+ students can be daunting but thanks to Courtney's leadership we are best prepared for a successful summer.</p>
4/28/2026	Jessica Still	CHHS Advising Center	7	<p>Jess jumped in to oversee slate management which requires building group advising sessions for four different populations of students and managing individual student sign ups for 1300+. She combed through the schedule to ensure that staff coverage was available and worked to provide alternative times to meet student demand. Each week she meticulously pulls a session roster and handles communication with team members to ensure everyone is informed and prepared. To support our online population, she created a best practice guide to support our distance education students and reviews class openings each week. The CHHS Advising team is better prepared and ready to support students because of her willingness to go above and beyond to help.</p>

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4/28/2026	Kristy Lowman	Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering	8	<p>I am copying the contents of an email received by Ms. Lowman from the parents of a student that Ms. Lowman provided excellent guidance to. It is a true story of success and is a testament to the care and personal commitment Ms. Lowman brings to her position.</p> <p>Here is the contents of that email, in full:</p> <p>Dear Ms. Lowman,</p> <p>This time three years ago, you were the academic advisor for our son, (Redacted) , who was an engineering student at that time. (Redacted) had transferred to UNC Charlotte in the Spring of 2023, and had just finished his first semester there when you began working with him. You may recall that his first semester at his new school was a disaster and his mother and I had a lot of concerns about him. You expertly guided us through that difficult period, which was a very challenging time for him and us. You spent considerable time and provided significant individual attention to him to help get him back on track. It turned out that engineering was just not a good fit for him. However, because of everything you did to help him that summer, he was able to return to Charlotte in the Fall of 2023 and find himself and his real passions. He will be graduating in two weeks with a bachelor's in Earth and Environmental Science with minors in Geology and Geography.</p> <p>Ms. Lowman, (Redacted) simply would not be were he is today had it not been for your compassion and guidance during this challenging time. I wanted to let you know that you made a real difference in this young man's life, and his mother and I wanted to express our sincere appreciation to you.</p> <p>Sincerely, (Redacted)</p>