

Employee Recognition

The following list of employees have been recognized by their colleagues and other stakeholders for their outstanding contributions to VCU. Visit the [recognition form](#) to submit a recognition for a colleague.

To find a specific recognition, search the person's name whose recognition(s) you want to read. You can also use the left menu to read recognitions from a specific time period.

2025**November**

Ben Webel	Our department has a very large presence at an annual major research conference, and Ben does so much - both before and during the conference - to make it a success! He does an incredible job of making sure all in the department are aware of the many (almost 40 this year!) VCU posters, presentations, and workshops, and this is no easy task, particularly since he was a part of eight of the sessions. He loves to highlight the work of our student researchers as well, and this helps to make it an awesome experience for them from start to finish. We have student researchers from VCU undergrad, SOPH, and SOM, and I know he serves as an excellent resource to all of them. He has made it easy for me to assist with advertising and social media from Richmond, while the conference is (this year) in Atlanta, with photos, info, assistance with supplies, etc.
11/25/2025	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	
Modestine Carter	Ms. Carter consistently demonstrates exceptional customer service and serves as a reliable subject matter expert whenever assistance is needed. She provides clear, concise guidance and
11/20/2025	

Submitted by: Carla Dannouf	carries herself with the utmost professionalism in every interaction. My department is grateful to have such a dedicated and knowledgeable thought-partner who brings both depth of expertise and a strong commitment to supporting VCU's operational needs. No matter the complexity of the issues we bring to her, Modestine responds with efficiency, grace, and thoughtful direction. Her support has been invaluable to our team, and she exemplifies the highest standards of excellence in her work.
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Gary Halliday	The Admissions Operations Technology Team would like to extend our sincere thanks to Gary Halliday for going above and beyond in helping us implement a new data exchange between our admissions system and ODS. This was a first for our office, and Gary's expertise, guidance, and support were absolutely pivotal to our success. Thanks, Gary!
11/12/2025	
Submitted by: Matthew Glennon	

October

Jacqueline Britz	Jackie is an exceptional co-director and team lead who demonstrates outstanding leadership, collaboration, and dedication. She fosters an environment that encourages learning, open communication, and professional growth. Her feedback is constructive and focused on improvement, helping team members build confidence and competence. Jackie actively supports staff and students by creating opportunities for development and providing guidance with professionalism and empathy. She contributes significantly to program initiatives, including student engagement and grant work, always seeking ways to
10/29/2025	
Submitted by: Tyler Burton	

	enhance the VCU experience. Her expertise, integrity, and commitment to excellence make her an invaluable asset whose influence strengthens both the team and the institution's mission. I am honored to be a part of her team and projects.
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Chantay Harris	Although Chantay has only been at the Stravitz-Sanyal Institute a bit longer than I have, she has absolutely become the backbone of our team over in MMRB6. In addition to balancing the very demanding task of supporting Drs. Karpen and Arab, she also provides support for all of us around the office. If any of us need something done correctly, and in a timely manner, Chantay is the first person we go to. Beyond her excellent work ethic, she brings not only brings a positive attitude to the workplace, but she goes above and beyond to make our office a cheerful place to work. One of my favorite aspects of working at the SSI is that our team gets along so well, and I can attribute that substantially to the culture that Chantay continues to cultivate in our little pocket of VCU. We are so thankful for everything that she does!
10/28/2025	
Submitted by: Fisher Rhoads	

Chantay Harris	Chantay works very hard, and is so supportive of our team! She goes above and beyond to make sure things get done, while bringing team spirit.
10/23/2025	
Submitted by: Ash Dorst	

JoAnn Hendren	Put simply, JO is awesome! She's incredibly knowledgeable about many different elements of administration on the clinical side, and she makes a lot of difficult things - particularly those involving
10/21/2025	

Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski		the intersection of VCU and VCU Health policies and procedures - make sense. She is very patient and kind, and she always follows through to make sure a task is done to everyone's satisfaction and understanding. I love having her as a colleague - thanks for all you do, JO!
Erin Heath	10/15/2025	Erin is amazing. Recently she helped me with updating our Slate admissions applications; the response to my request was very timely, within the same work day! She is helpful and friendly. She asks good questions and has helped me with best practices concerning the admissions application updates. Thank you Erin for all that you do!
Submitted by: Sandra Mazzoli		
Hayley Roulston	10/13/2025	It is always awesome working with Hayley! I have partnered with her on a project that has a lot of moving parts, and she is always incredibly helpful and patient. She is a great resource for how to do things, and she generously shares her expertise and time. I learn a lot from her each time we work together on this project, and I'm grateful for her guidance and good humor. Thank you, Hayley!
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski		
Colin Drake	10/10/2025	Colin completed a pretty large project for the department of mathematics & applied mathematics earlier in the fall and as always he was on top of communication with us about the steps for the project, timelines , etc. He made what could have been a painful transition to a different access system easy, with minimal hiccups.
Submitted by: Ellie Roberts		
		Whenever we have lock/access issues or questions he is knowledgeable and can point us in the right direction or answer the questions himself. Our team

	appreciates his work and wants him to know!!
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Bradley Lile	Bradley completed a project for the department of mathematics & applied mathematics this summer. He did a wonderful job communicating the needs of the project, what was able to happen, the steps to getting the project done, and he managed the project seamlessly. Whenever we have a project or issue that needs a solution and Bradley is assigned to the project, we as the administrative staff in the department know we are in good hands. Very grateful for the dedication he brings to his work, and we hope he knows he is appreciated!
10/10/2025	
Submitted by: Ellie Roberts	

Ashley Krauss	Thanks to Ashley for their knowledge sharing; their ability to explain the MCVP Employed contracts process so effectively will help me contribute more effectively to our team's and department goals.
10/10/2025	
Submitted by: Tori Barham	

Juan Pablo Arab Verdugo	Recognizing Transformational Leadership: Dr. Juan Pablo Arab I would like to offer the highest praise for Dr. Juan Pablo Arab, whose support has been foundational to my success during my nine months here at VCU. Dr. Arab embodies the principle that being heard is the highest honor a leader can provide. He has consistently created a safe environment that empowers me to be innovative, to speak freely, and to express concerns, ensuring that communication is the key to our collective success. This
10/10/2025	
Submitted by: Chantay Harris	

	commitment actively promotes a healthy, safe, and welcoming environment for all. His approach to achievement is through expert coaching, counseling, and communication. Beyond this, his visible advocacy work and steadfast support of my development as I learn and grow in my position have been monumental. He provides a critical sense of hope and stability that is profoundly meaningful. I am most grateful for his ongoing investment in my development and his truly exceptional leadership.
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Ashley Dorst	Emphasizing Compassion and Growth: I am thrilled to recognize Ashley Dorst for the 2nd time for her outstanding impact on both our team's environment and her own professional growth during my nine months here at VCU. She consistently helps when needed and approaches every interaction with compassion and empathy, actively fostering a truly safe and supportive environment for our entire team. Her willingness to help others, paired with her commitment to strong collaboration, freedom, and acts of service, is a bedrock of our daily work. What's especially commendable is watching her seize opportunities and dedicate herself to achieving her personal goals of mastering her job duties. Her eagerness to learn from the entire team shows a commitment to excellence that deserves to be recognized.
10/10/2025	
Submitted by: Chantay Harris	

Omar Albhaisi	Highlighting Responsive Support and Environment: I would like to recognize
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10/10/2025	Omar Albhaisi for being the team's reliable source of aid and collaboration. His talent for assisting when needed—paired with his swift ability to pivot and provide support—is invaluable. He makes himself available during optimal times in our day or week, always responding with Kindness. This steady approach ensures all our projects go smoothly and feel fulfilling. This is why he is definitively recognized for his continuous contribution to teamwork and acts of service, all of which help promote a supportive environment for me and others on our team.
Submitted by: Chantay Harris	

Samuel Fisher Rhoads	I want to give a massive shout-out to Samuel Fisher Rhoads this week! His ability to pivot and provide support when things get hectic is truly unmatched. Whether it's a small task or a critical issue, his calmness and patience always keep our projects running smoothly. Thank you, Fisher, for your continuous teamwork, reliable support, and for consistently helping to promote a fantastic and supportive environment for all of us. You're a true asset to the team!
10/10/2025	
Submitted by: Chantay Harris	

Sania Marcoccia	Thank you for always being helpful and patient. Your knowledge and expertise when it comes to Smartsheets is invaluable. You make a real difference every day, and are very much appreciated. Kudos to all you do!
10/3/2025	
Submitted by: Keyetta Tate	

September

Wren Wyatt	Wren was critical in helping the Business Intelligence team develop reporting and insights for the Campaign Launch event. Wren also dedicated his time to volunteer
9/19/2025	

Submitted by: Jeremy Utz	to work the event. Wren is a great team player and is committed to doing all he can to make DAR a successful organization!
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Gordon Blum	Gordon showed amazing teamwork by helping the Business Intelligence team prepare reporting for the campaign launch. He also dedicated his time to work the campaign launch event as a volunteer, showing his dedication and team-first spirit. Thank you Gordon for all you are doing to make DAR successful!
9/19/2025	
Submitted by: Jeremy Utz	

Annie Publow	I wanted to take a moment to thank Annie Publow, Senior Director of Sponsored Programs, for her help in a recent School of Education (SOE) grant submission to a national foundation. The submission was quite complicated, involving community partners, and last minute changes and details. We appreciate Annie's understanding and flexibility in tight deadlines as was the case with this foundation submission. I appreciate everything Annie and her division do to advance the work at the SOE and VCU and applaud her many years of service and expertise supporting our research mission. Thank you Annie! Much appreciated!
9/17/2025	
Submitted by: Jose Alcaine	

Demetria Patterson	I want to take a moment to recognize the incredible work Demetria Patterson has done. As the new Administrative Manager, navigating all the onboarding processes and managing our international students and rotations has been a huge task. Demetria has been an absolute lifesaver. She is always so professional, patient, and caring, and she's been a truly invaluable resource for all my questions—whether it's
9/11/2025	
Submitted by: Chantay Harris	

	for one student or twenty! Her help has made a world of difference in my transition, and I'm incredibly grateful for her guidance. Demetria's hard work and dedication deserve to be celebrated. Please join me in thanking her for everything she does to make our team and processes run so smoothly.
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Noah Craig	I would like to recognize Noah for his exceptional support and teamwork. Despite having a full workload and many responsibilities of his own, Noah consistently takes the time to answer questions, provide guidance, and share his knowledge. His willingness to help reflects a genuine dedication to teamwork and has greatly supported my learning and development as a new employee. Thank you, Noah, for being such a reliable and supportive colleague!
9/10/2025	
Submitted by: Brittnee Bland	

Hannah Turazzo	For always making time to help with technology to make my job easier even though she has a very demanding job of her own. Thank you!
9/10/2025	
Submitted by: Teri Smith	

Carolyn Yafuso	For helping to make the travel process less complicated with templates and directions that were very helpful for someone new to the process.
9/10/2025	
Submitted by: Teri Smith	

Paul Kadas	I wanted to send a special thank you and shout out to Paul for his support this morning with getting my computer log-in issues sorted. He was patient, responsive, compassionate, and resolved the issue quickly so I could move forward with my full day of work. It was stressful having laptop issues coming back from the long holiday weekend, and by both responding to set up our support call this morning on his day off AND making sure we could start the day with fixing this issue, he has set my mind at ease. It's awesome to have Paul and the full AOIT team to provide expertise and great customer service to SEMSS team members whenever questions or issues arise -- y'all are the best!
9/2/2025	
Submitted by: Samara Reynolds	

August

Kathryn Bunce	Kathryn is such a pleasure to work with. She always goes above and beyond to get the task done and offer any assistance. She remains positive and friendly at all times. I can't thank her enough for all of her continuous help.
8/28/2025	
Submitted by: Keyetta Tate	

Krystal Andrews	I want to recognize Krystal Andrews for her outstanding collegiality and support during my recent transition from a staff role to a faculty position. Krystal went above and beyond by creating a detailed orientation guide tailored to the shift in responsibilities and expectations, and she generously took the time to walk through it with me and my supervisor. Her patience, flexibility, and clarity were invaluable — she answered all our questions thoughtfully, extended our meeting without hesitation, and shared helpful insights about collaborating with her team, key semester milestones, and available
8/4/2025	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

	resources. Krystal's kind approach made a meaningful difference in helping me feel grounded and prepared. Her dedication exemplifies cross-functional support and I appreciate the effort and time it took to create the resources that were shared.
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The VCU and VCU Health System HRPP/IRB team	The HRPP/IRB team has led the intensity of this final stage in the transformation of the program and the operating system with professionalism, confidence, and an outstanding commitment to upholding the integrity of human research protections. In the midst of this process, the review volume far exceeded all prior records, by far! Yet, with a strong collaborative team culture and a great knowledge-base, this team has literally moved 'a mountain' to ensure that both VCU and VCU Health uphold the ethical and regulatory framework supporting all human research and related privacy protections.
8/1/2025	
Submitted by: Lisa Ballance	

July

Brittany Usera	I want to recognize Brittany for her exceptional problem solving abilities. From processes, IT or any technical issue Brittany always assists with helpful solutions. It's the little things that are appreciated. It's a pleasure to work alongside Brittany.
7/29/2025	
Submitted by: Tori Barham	

Jesse McMillan	Jesse did a tremendous amount of work, most of it in a very short period of time, for the TTMS course (M1 Transition to Medical School). He made sure that every detail was attended to and was extremely professional in his day-to-day interactions with faculty and staff alike.
7/24/2025	
Submitted by: Lisa Domico	

Amanda Ennis	Amanda stepped in at the last minute to plan events and provide support for the TTMS (M1 Transition to Medical School). Within a matter of a few days, she was able to tie up any loose ends that existed and helped to make the week a big success for our incoming students!
7/24/2025	
Submitted by: Lisa Domico	

Amanda Ennis	The VCU Office of Medical Education is currently welcoming a new class of Medical Students in the Class of 2029 with the Transition to Medical School course. Our preclinical coordinator, who typically would have been the primary point of contact and person responsible for planning and executing most of this programming, left her position at VCU SOM last week. With this vacancy, Amanda has stepped up to fill in all of the gaps for this transition period, and has executed flawlessly, allowing staff and leadership to feel confident and secure that the TTMS course will still go off without a hitch for our incoming students. Amanda has coordinated logistics for daily programming, planned and executed complicated events, and deftly delegated staff roles and responsibilities. She has been available to offer advice and answer questions for other newer staff members and OME leadership. She has truly gone above and beyond to help our team function and thrive during a very busy time of year.
7/24/2025	
Submitted by: Casey Mangin	

Amanda Ennis	Amanda has seamlessly taken over KyAnna Jones' TTMS work, quickly building and collaborating on an agenda that we can all work with, despite significant pressure and time constraints. Her ability to adapt and deliver under these conditions has been remarkable. Amanda's dedication and efficiency have
7/15/2025	
Submitted by: Chuck Alexander	

	ensured continuity and set us up for future success in OME.
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KyAnna Jones	KyAnna has been instrumental in our pre-clinical activities and coordination. However, more recently her exceptional work with the Transitions to Medical School (TTMS) has greatly enhanced the incoming student experience and will continue to greatly benefit OME in the future. Her dedication, expertise, and positive attitude have made a lasting impact on our team. This recognition is long overdue.
7/15/2025	
Submitted by: Chuck Alexander	

Jada Wright	In a time of leadership transition, Jada has remained positive, collaborative, and willing to go above and beyond in supporting both her current responsibilities as well as the Office of Strategic Recruitment in other duties as needed. She is dedicated to ensuring all voices are heard, and is supportive to everyone around her. Her focus on supporting others, communicating, and collaborating are cornerstones to the school's success. SOE is lucky to have her.
7/11/2025	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

The RealTime Team	The RealTime Team is consistently super-fast in responding and very helpful. I appreciate their very strong customer service. They are great to work with!
7/10/2025	
Submitted by: Janet White	

Kelly Spence	Kelly put his creative touch and web design prowess to work this summer to help revamp and launch a new webpage for the growing VCU Career Champions training program. Now that we have over 180 faculty and staff Champions certified
7/9/2025	

Submitted by: Samara Reynolds	across campus, recognizing the many individuals who have completed the program since 2021 was getting unwieldy through the previous site layout. Kelly decided to use our page as a testing ground for a new filtering/data management system so that we could not only list our Champions in a more aesthetically pleasing way on the page in general, but also so that page visitors (including students) can search by school/division/department to easily find the Career Champions available to them where they are already spending time. Kelly was -- as always -- super fast and dedicated as he moved this project forward, but he was also willing to work through feedback, questions, and any issues to get us to a high-quality final product. Thank you!
Tori Barham 7/2/2025 Submitted by: Brittnee Bland	I would like to recognize Tori for her efforts and assistance in training me as a new team member of the School of Medicine. Her patience, thoroughness, and willingness to share knowledge, answer all my questions, and provide ongoing support have had a positive impact on my learning and overall onboarding experience. Tori's clear guidance and approachable teaching style have boosted my confidence as a new employee and made my transition into this role much smoother. Her support is a true reflection of both teamwork and mentorship, and I'm sincerely grateful for the opportunity to learn from her. Thank you, Tori, for being such an outstanding guide and colleague!

May

Vena Wheeler Hantke	I want to express immense gratitude for Vena's instrumental support during my VCU onboarding as well as our newly hired co workers. As a new hire navigating complex VCU/VCU Health IT processes, her patience and calmness have been invaluable. She consistently helps, even jumping on Zoom/Teams calls and answering impromptu questions despite her own workload. This goes above and beyond, truly making my transition smooth. Vena deserves the highest recognition for being such a supportive and outstanding teammate.
5/28/2025	
Submitted by: Chantay Harris	

Todd Sentz	I'm writing to express my sincere appreciation for Todd in IT support. As a new team member at VCU, I've been navigating the complexities of setting up seminars and webinars in the MMEC meeting rooms, and Todd has been an absolute lifesaver. He has consistently been supportive, incredibly helpful, and always professional. What stands out most is his remarkable patience. He takes the time to explain even the simplest tasks, which, while routine for IT, can be quite challenging for someone new like myself. His willingness to guide me through these processes has made a significant difference in my onboarding and ability to get things done effectively. Todd truly deserves the highest recognition for his outstanding service and dedication to helping new colleagues succeed.
5/28/2025	
Submitted by: Chantay Harris	

Brianna Croxton	Huge thanks for your incredible support on the VCU Research Retreat Project. I wanted to send a huge, heartfelt thank you for stepping in and helping me with the prep work on Tuesday, May 27, 2025. Honestly, it was one of the most stressful days I've had in a while, and I was feeling completely overwhelmed with the workload. You recognizing my stress level and jumping in to assist with that priority project made an enormous difference. It truly freed me up to tackle other high-priority items that were piling up. I can't tell you how much I appreciate you offering to help when no one else did. You really saved the day for me! Thanks again for being so observant and for your incredible teamwork.
5/28/2025	
Submitted by: Chantay Harris	

Natalia O'Brien	I am writing to express my sincere appreciation for my colleague, Natalia, whose unwavering dedication and support have made a remarkable impact on our School of Medicine. Natalia is truly an asset to have as a colleague. She consistently goes above and beyond, offering her help before anyone even has to ask. Whether it's a complex project or a small task, Natalia approaches every challenge with the same level of care and commitment as if it were her own. Her proactive nature and willingness to jump in wherever needed bring a sense of reassurance to everyone around her. Knowing that Natalia is involved means knowing that everything will be okay. Her presence brings not only competence but
5/16/2025	
Submitted by: Ashli Phillips	

	also a spirit of collaboration and kindness that uplifts our entire community. Thank you, Natalia, for all that you do and continue to do. Your contributions do not go unnoticed, and we are incredibly fortunate to have you as a colleague.
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Maryanna O'Neill	Maryanna has jumped in feet first into the world of recruitment. From learning about new data systems, to chatting with other Sr. Ed Specialists to learn best practices, to working directly with faculty and our Office of Strategic Recruitment Team, she is always creative, coming up with ideas, and asking great questions to move our conversations forward. I appreciate Maryanna's ability to connect the dots and keep us all informed of other things happening in the department so we can maximize her incredible knowledge and skills, as well as consider new ways to recruit students into the two new certificate programs in the Foundations Department. Her focus, attention to detail, and ability to make concepts make sense to a large, diverse audience, is a unique skill set. I value her insights and look forward to continuing to see her ideas come alive in the coming year.
5/5/2025	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

April

Jackie Myers	Jackie is always helpful and super-fast in responding to payroll issues. She always thinks of the employee first and is proactive in resolving challenges. I appreciate her so much! She makes my work life easier.
4/28/2025	
Submitted by: Janet White	

Katie Huynh	I would like to recognize and thank Katie for her fantastic event planning skills, troubleshooting skills, attention to detail, professionalism, and her ever present calmness under pressure. She is wonderful at her job and she is such a great asset to Wilder School and VCU. She is always willing to help everyone and always ensures that events, meetings, graduations, ceremonies, etc., take place without a hitch. She has done this for years now but in a more recent example, she was able to whip up on the spot a certificate we were missing for an award ceremony. This is all within just a few minutes before the ceremony was to start. Of course the room set up and flow was perfect and the ceremony was a big success all thanks to her initiative and quick thinking. Thank you Katie for everything you do for Wilder School and VCU. It is much appreciated. Cheers.
4/25/2025	
Submitted by: Jose G. Alcaine	

Kathryn Bunce	Kathy is always available and willing to help anytime. If she doesn't know the answer she looks and tries to help find the answer. Thank you Kathy for being the best!
4/10/2025	
Submitted by: Martha VanMeter	

Hayley Darwin	As I planned for an upcoming site visit, I was responsible for coordinating breakfast and lunch for our visitors—my first time handling a request of this size on my own. Hayley was incredibly helpful and patient throughout the entire process. After I submitted the request, she was quick to respond, answered all of my questions, and stayed in constant communication
4/8/2025	
Submitted by: Lillie Lattimore	

	with the vendors all the way through the day of the event. Her support made the day much less stressful for me. Thank you, Hayley!
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Kathryn Bunce	Kathy is such a breath of fresh air. She is always helpful, kind, and a pleasure to work with. Her willingness to assist at any time is much appreciated!
4/4/2025	
Submitted by: Keyetta Tate	

Polly Roberts	Polly just celebrated 15 years at VCU! As someone who just celebrated two months here, she's been such a great coworker while helping me get up to speed. She's a valuable resource and is always open to sit down with me and go through edits. I appreciate her thoughtfulness and the trust that she's already put in me.
4/2/2025	
Submitted by: Hayley Roulston	

Polly Roberts	I cannot begin to convey how much I enjoy working alongside Polly Roberts. Her energy, dedication and enthusiasm shines through in her work whether it be connecting 1:1 with our alumni to profile them in a communications story, highlighting our amazing School of Medicine faculty or onboarding new staff, Polly is a loyal colleague and champion of VCU. The university has been lucky to count Polly as one of its own for 15 years.
4/2/2025	
Submitted by: Jodi T. Smith	

Polly Roberts	Polly is celebrating 15 years at VCU this month, and we are very lucky to have her! She is a talented writer, excellent project manager, and compassionate colleague. Her quiet, measured leadership sets a great example for all of us on the team. Whether it's guiding a new team member,
4/2/2025	
Submitted by: Amanda Kowaleski	

	giving advice to a colleague, or brainstorming ways to tell the stories of the MCV Campus, Polly is always willing to lend a helping hand. Congrats to her on 15 years of amazing impact!
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March

Justin Carrico	Justin was able to negotiate a contract for great savings for our division! I hope that through the years of the contract, we remember this great work. Justin was communicative through the process as well- my confidence in Justin is well-founded. It is a relief having such an excellent buyer that can think of all angles and work hard on contract approaches while guiding me in my own role!
3/25/2025	
Submitted by: Chevy Newell	

Benjamin Webel	Ben has provided invaluable guidance as I've adjusted to the VCU culture. From day one, he has been a constant source of support, always ready to assist with any questions I have. He was one of the first individuals to help me navigate Redcap and understand the company's culture. Ben consistently demonstrates a strong commitment to excellence, going above and beyond in his contributions, as reflected in his meeting updates. His reliability and expertise make him a tremendous asset to our team, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with him on research projects.
3/17/2025	
Submitted by: Tyler Burton	

Ijuanzee Isom	Ijuanzee always goes above and beyond. He is responsive and makes himself available, despite the demands on his time. He leads with professionalism, kindness, and care even in the face of challenging situations. He recently
3/10/2025	
Submitted by: Karen Belanger	

	assisted me in navigating a difficult workplace challenge, and I am greatly appreciative of the time he took to be thorough, helpful, and supportive. Thank you is insufficient to express my gratitude, but it is a start. Thank you!
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Kathy Bunce	Kathy is amazing. She is a wealth of knowledge, responsive and expedient. A colleague reached out about an inquiry from an external non-profit partner regarding a specific payment. Kathy was able to investigate the question, identify the specific transaction and provide a thorough response all within the hour! She's a great resource for campus and always very helpful. Thank you for always being open and available to assist.
3/7/2025	
Submitted by: Javeria Kazi	

Ehonam Agbati	We celebrate a milestone – the 5-year service anniversary of Ehonam Agbati also known as Roger. Roger, your dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment have been instrumental in our journey and success. You have consistently demonstrated excellence in everything you do. Your innovative ideas, collaborative spirit, and relentless pursuit of quality have set a high standard that has not gone unnoticed. Whether assisting with critical projects, solving challenges, or simply being a reliable team member, you have always gone above and beyond. Your willingness to help others has made a lasting impact on our team and our culture. As we celebrate your 5 years with us, we want to express our deepest gratitude for your contributions. Your hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed, and we are incredibly fortunate to have you as part of our team.
3/7/2025	
Submitted by: Allen L. Collins	

Micheal Kernan	We celebrate a remarkable milestone – the 15-year service anniversary of Michael Kernan. Michael, your dedication, hard work, and unwavering commitment have been instrumental in our journey and success. From the moment you joined us, you have consistently demonstrated excellence in everything you do. Your innovative ideas, collaborative spirit, and relentless pursuit of quality have set a high standard for all of us. You have not only contributed to our projects but have also inspired and mentored many along the way. Whether leading critical projects, solving complex challenges, or simply being a reliable team member, you have always gone above and beyond. Your positive attitude and willingness to help others have made a lasting impact on our team and our culture. As we celebrate your 15 years with us, we want to express our deepest gratitude for your contributions. Your hard work and dedication have not gone unnoticed, and we are incredibly fortunate to have you as part of our team.
3/7/2025	
Submitted by: Allen L. Collins	

February

Shamar Porter	Our team has worked with Shamar and his partner a lot over the last academic year, and I want to really take a moment to appreciate the quality of their service. They bring an immediate calming presence, even in times where situations have escalated. They approach students with empathy and care, and go above and beyond to make them feel safe and supported. They are an invaluable part of our community, and we are all better for their presence and contributions to VCU.
2/27/2025	
Submitted by: Chris Parthemos	

Madison McGinley-Bujtas	Our team has worked with Maddy and her partner a lot over the last academic year, and I want to really take a moment to appreciate the quality of their service. They bring an immediate calming presence, even in times where situations have escalated. They approach students with empathy and care, and go above and beyond to make them feel safe and supported. They are an invaluable part of our community, and we are all better for their presence and contributions to VCU.
2/27/2025	
Submitted by: Chris Parthemos	
Katie Ranger	Katie consistently demonstrates a deep understanding of the intricacies involved in managing my post-grant awards, particularly with the complexity of my NIH grant. I particularly appreciate her thoroughness in investigating issues and her proactive communication with me to ensure that everything is handled with precision and care. Not only is she an invaluable asset in problem-solving, but her patient, calm demeanor makes her a joy to work with, even during challenging situations. Her professionalism and unwavering commitment truly stand out, and her contributions are deeply appreciated.
2/21/2025	
Submitted by: Ingrid Pretzer-Aboff PhD	
Lillie Lattimore	Lillie is truly one of a kind, and the Wright Center is incredibly fortunate to have her. She plays a vital role in nearly every aspect of our work—whether it's crafting newsletters, blogs, and social media posts, coordinating meetings, managing calendars, compiling reports, or seamlessly handling countless other responsibilities. Her exceptional organization, keen attention to detail, and remarkable adaptability make a significant impact every day. Lillie's dedication and hard work do not go unnoticed, and I am
2/14/2025	
Submitted by: Brad Williams	

	deeply grateful for all that she does to support the team.
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Graham Haddock	I am a patient seen at Short Pump for Parkinson's and Normal Pressure hydrocephalus. I have mobility problems. I was holding on to a post while my wife parked and Mr. Haddock came outside from his stand to ask if I needed assistance or a wheelchair. He brought one out and wheeled me through all the registration, etc. (even the restroom). Being a (retired) physician myself, I know how busy the clinic is but Mr. Haddock made me feel like I was his only concern. Very pleasant and courteous. Frontline service "above and beyond" are invaluable to any business but, especially in HealthCare, they're golden.
2/5/2025	
Submitted by: Dr. David R. Faber	

January

Morgan Reid	Morgan is incredibly proactive and takes great initiative in ensuring her course is accessible to her students. Over the break, she not only consulted with SAEO to proactively design her course content for accessibility, but also did her own research on what accessibility means, and implemented what she learned. Thanks for all you do, Morgan!
1/31/2025	
Submitted by: Cedar Smithson	

Shawné Michaelain Holloway	Last semester I got to work with SHAWNÉ and witnessed how she approached supporting her SAEO-connected students with the utmost care and nuance. It is clear she takes great strides to be inclusive, recognize the unique strengths of everyone in her classroom, and build a culture of support. SHAWNÉ goes beyond the demands of academia and situates
1/31/2025	
Submitted by: Cedar Smithson	

	herself in community with her students and colleagues.
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Hayley Darwin	Hayley has been a great leader in the office, always kind and patient. I can count on her to answer any questions I have, especially when it comes to travel arrangements and Red Cap procedures. She has a strong understanding of the systems, and she's always willing to help me navigate any complexities. Her support has been a big help in my transition into the team, and I truly appreciate how approachable and knowledgeable she is.
1/24/2025	
Submitted by: Tyler Burton	

Elizabeth "Beth" Shaver	This morning, one of our research participants ended up at the Smith Building, home of VCU Pharm/Tox instead of the IDAS research clinic facility on E Cary Street. Ms. Shaver took the time to work with the lost participant in tracking down where he needed to be and provided him with instructions on how to get to where he needed to be. She also wanted to make sure that we knew the participant was on his way. This type of personal touch is so important when working with research participants. They are all giving of their time to help our department advance the neuroscience of addictions and related neurobehavioral disorders. They are deserving of kindness and respect, just like Ms. Shaver provided. I am grateful she was able to take the time to help.
1/16/2025	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Fortune	

Kyle Sefton	Kyle has demonstrated time and time again that collaborative efforts are possible between VCU and VCUHS' IT teams. His unending commitment to our shared userbases UX is second to none and his passion to do good is an inspiration to many.
1/16/2025	
Submitted by: Michael Diaz	
Anna Nole and Scott Crenshaw	We had our first SOP staff committee meeting of the year today -- a committee that is being newly led by Anna Nole and Scott Crenshaw. I was really struck by the effort and thought that went into the initiatives for the year. These two are already providing inspired leadership and have generated a great deal of enthusiasm for doing the work of staff advocacy. I am enthused to be working with them and appreciate the time they are taking to make this a great committee. Thank you, Anna and Scott!
1/16/2025	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	
Wendy Brown-Pike	Wendy recently helped us with a large HEETF purchase for computer equipment and although we had a valid quote from the vendor, the punchout total wasn't matching up to the original quote (it was much higher than it should be). To ensure we received the originally quoted pricing from the vendor, Wendy went above and beyond to resolve this issue by communicating directly on my team's behalf to ensure they honored the original pricing. This effort helped my team well under budget for the FY25 HEETF cycle allowing us to "return" several thousand dollars (based on cost savings from the price corrections) to the HEETF budget for the university. Thank you so much Wendy for all your tremendous work!
1/13/2024	
Submitted by: Houston Griffith	
Stephanie Ganser	Stephanie is always ready and willing to collaborate and partner on new student

1/9/2024	centered initiatives. She is a thought partner who is grounded in best practice and research to support students from a variety of academic and professional backgrounds. Most recently we launched a program that is almost fully online adult learners, and immediately Stephanie responded with support. In the past, I have asked Stephanie to share her office and best practices with School of Education faculty and staff and she was flexible, adjusted the topic to our audience, and was a ready resource for faculty who may be new to supporting undergraduate adult learners. I value her partnership and expertise. VCU is lucky to have Stephanie!
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

Chris Parthemos	Chris's detail oriented, nuanced, and holistic support of students, colleagues, and supervisees is remarkable. He holds - and shares generously - his ample institutional knowledge, and is highly skilled at developing and maintaining relationships, coordinating complex logistics, and recognizing the strengths of the people around him. His responsive and supportive leadership have benefitted SAE0 and the broader VCU community immensely.
1/3/2024	
Submitted by: Cedar Smithson	

Linda Zyzniewski	Linda is a fantastic asset to the VCU community - especially with regards to her support of students with disability-related needs in the learning environment. Her compassion, curiosity, care and strong analytic skills make her a fantastic collaborator in the creation of accessible pathways to education.
1/2/2024	
Submitted by: Cedar Smithson	

2024

December

Shirley Helm		I am pleased to recognize Shirley Helm for her outstanding contributions to the success of ALHP391: Managing Innovation: Introduction to Research Administration. While co-teaching the course with me, Shirley went above and beyond her regular job duties by working together to select readings and assignments that perfectly aligned with the course content and managing the highly involved setup and maintenance of the Canvas learning management system. Her meticulous attention to detail, technical expertise, and dedication ensured the seamless delivery of this course, which directly supports the CTSA grant’s workforce development goals and mission. This effort exemplifies exceptional cross-collaboration and reflects Shirley’s commitment to innovation, teamwork, and advancing the Wright Center’s objectives. Her role was pivotal to the course’s success, and I believe she deserves recognition for her remarkable contributions. She and I make a great team!
12/12/2024		
Submitted by: Elizabeth Fortune		

Ben Herzick		I want to give a huge shoutout to Ben Herzick for going above and beyond in assisting with our RPA projects. Ben has tirelessly worked to streamline multiple processes and create efficiencies for our team. His expertise, dedication, and hard work have made a significant difference, and we truly appreciate everything he has done to make our work more manageable. Thank you for your support and commitment to efficiency!
12/11/2024		
Submitted by: Shanea Raj		

Dave Jeter	Dave was beyond helpful when we were facing a huge scheduling issue that was beyond our department's control. He worked to find a solution for us, and this required a fair amount of his time with very little notice. We couldn't have had the successful event we did without Dave's determination and ingenuity to solve a major problem for us - thank you so much, Dave!
12/9/2024	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Caelen Bausone	For the second year in a row, Caelen assisted our department with a large presentation, and we are so grateful for his support! We have a pretty substantial group joining via Zoom for this event, and it was super helpful to have his expertise to get that all set up with the slides as well. We were in the Egyptian Building this year, and that space is a bit unfamiliar to us in terms of logistics, etc., but having him there to assist took away any stresses we may have had in that regard. We are thankful for his expertise and good humor - both went a long way to make our event a success. Thank you again, Caelen!
12/9/2024	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Matthew Glennon	Matthew has endless patience with all of my odd questions and requests. He is proactive and intentional about taking every meeting as an opportunity to help build confidence and knowledge with others about Slate in order to empower them with data to support students. He is responsive, quick to support, and clarifies what is possible and what is not possible to build solutions together. Today I was struggling with a query that I thought should be fairly easy, but was more complex. He adjusted the query and then walked me through the logic of the query
12/6/2024	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

	so I could understand the functionality for future issues or needs. He is a delightful colleague that I appreciate every day.
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November

Becca McDermott	Becca has been a HUGE help to our program! She is always quick to respond to emails and willing to answer my many questions. Becca has been quintessential in ensuring our institution's are set up with finance and awards are delivered in a timely manner (and answering all my questions about this too!) Becca attended our Annual Convening event and jumped right in to help where needed. We appreciate all that you do for our team!
11/25/2024	
Submitted by: Rosa Roncales	

Gaby Villalobos	A large group from our department - including faculty, staff, students, and residents - just attended the North American Primary Care Research Group (NAPCRG) Annual Meeting in Québec, and Gaby did an amazing job of serving as the historian of the trip. Our department was able to have a really strong and timely Instagram presence (from here in Richmond!) during the conference because of the wonderful photos she sent me, and she included accompanying information and answered any questions I had about who was who and what was what. She went the extra mile to make sure all participants were included, with a particularly strong focus on our student researchers from SOM and SOPH. It should be noted that she was involved with two poster presentations at the conference as well, and she assisted with organizing and posting job opportunity flyers while on site. Thank you so much, Gaby!
11/25/2024	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Robin LaHaye	Since starting appointments with our office Robin has continually completed the most career advising appointments. Also, Robin took over a section of UNIV 191 half-way through the semester and has done an amazing job leading the class and supporting the students. Taking over a class during the semester is never easy and Robin has shown strong resilience and adaptability as an instructor.
11/12/2024	
Submitted by: Cody Rogalski	
Sydney Weber	Sydney, your contributions to the School of Pharmacy's Website Redesign Project for pharmacy.vcu.edu made an enormous impact on our ability to deliver in a timely manner a product that exceeded expectations. From taking on myriad web-related tasks with enthusiasm and aplomb to building out our school's social media presence in ways that would not have been possible with my attention diverted to the website, your work these last few months has made a world of difference. You have helped us showcase the school in its best light, allowing us to stay on the cutting edge and remain competitive with our peers, and you have done so in a positive and upbeat manner. Thank you for the time, support and care you brought to this project – and to our team as part of this project. Without you, this would not have been possible. Thank you again for this hard work and for your continued teamwork!
11/6/2024	
Submitted by: Mary Kate Brogan	
Caitlin Hanbury	Caitlin, your contributions to the School of Pharmacy's Website Redesign Project for pharmacy.vcu.edu made an immeasurable impact on our ability to deliver in a timely manner a product that exceeded expectations. You took outdated website copy and created clear, concise, engaging content that showcases our school in its
11/6/2024	
Submitted by: Mary Kate Brogan	

	best light, helping us stay on the cutting edge and remain competitive with our peers. You brought thoughtfulness and creativity to this project that went above and beyond our expectations and far exceeded what we would have been able to accomplish without your help. Thank you for the time, support and care you brought to this project – and to our team as part of this project. Without you, this would not have been possible. Thank you again for your hard work and your continued partnership!
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October

Rosa Roncales	I'd like to recognize Rosa for her initiative and leadership in spearheading a project that will streamline some of our historically complex administrative processes. Rosa took this on with exceptional foresight and determination, paving the way for improvements that will make a lasting impact on how we work. Her commitment to making our workflows more efficient speaks volumes about her dedication to our team and our Program. We're just getting started but working with Rosa on this project has been great, and I'm genuinely excited to see the positive changes she's setting in motion. Her proactive approach and dedication to bettering our processes make her an invaluable member of our team.
10/31/2024	
Submitted by: Ariana Lee	

Brad Williams	I would like to recognize Brad Williams for his exceptional leadership as the project lead for the Wright Center's first Research Day. With a limited planning window, Brad's dedication and organizational skills were instrumental in making the event a success. His thoughtful approach ensured a smooth experience for all attendees,
10/28/2024	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Fortune	

	creating a welcoming environment where participants made valuable new connections and gained insights into diverse research areas. His role as MC added a polished and professional touch to the day. Brad's hard work and vision have set a strong foundation for future Wright Center Research Days. Thank you, Brad!
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Krystal Williams	Krystal is an amazing resource here at VCU! My colleagues and I have been working to figure out what we do and do not need in terms of telecom devices and services, and she has made it really easy for us to do what will best suit our needs. She is very patient and responsive to requests for additional information, and she hopped on a meeting with us today to be sure that we have what we need to move forward; she also wants to follow up with us in a month to be sure everything is working as it should. She is very attuned to providing excellent customer service as well, and we are so appreciative. Thank you so much Krystal!
10/24/2024	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Caitlin Hanbury	I would like to thank Caitlin for her overload work over the past year with the School of Pharmacy to get our new website in excellent shape and ready for launch. She provided the highest quality content expertise, sorting out unimaginably difficult content quagmires and producing back simple and effective messaging that will be highly impactful in helping the school attract new students. That she was able to do that all in the same year's time as she did the same for the School of Nursing site is nothing short of amazing. As a collaborator who values process, communication, and attention to detail, Caitlin is a delight to have on a
10/22/2024	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	

	team that aims to be nimble and get things done efficiently and on time. Her attention to detail and her ability to bring expertise from other related areas (scholarships! news! graphics! etc) had a tremendous impact on the success of our project. Thank you, Caitlin!
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Sydney Weber	I would like to recognize Sydney Weber for her willingness and eagerness to pivot from her regular duties in CPPI to help me and the communications director get our recent major web project launched on time. Some of the web tasks she was asked to complete were particularly mundane and tedious and yet utterly essential to getting the site over the finish line. She exceeded all expectations for her work and was a delightful teammate. I do hope we'll get the chance to collaborate again in the future. Thank you, Sydney!
10/22/2024	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	

Curtis Reisinger	I would like to recognize Curtis Reisinger for his outstanding leadership of the web community at VCU and more granularly, for the management of his superstar team that continues to provide the web community with stellar support services. Though it isn't always his job to deliver the news you want to hear, Curtis has a singular talent for communication and always speaks with clarity, respect, and the authority you'd expect from someone who has been-there and done-that on every conceivable web issue at VCU over the years. Even when delivering bad news, he does so in a way that makes you understand and see the issue at the forest-level when you're stuck in the trees. And all of this is not to say that he always delivers bad news! In fact, he most often bends over backwards to help you in any way he can. His excellent team is a
10/22/2024	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	

	reflection of his leadership, providing the highest level of service to an astounding number of people and projects at VCU. Each of them brings excellence to their respective roles and Curtis is adept at utilizing their skills to the fullest to deliver innovative products and services to the community. I continue to marvel at the efficiency of such a small team and just want to say 'thank you' to Curtis for his effective leadership in continuing to provide us what we need at the MBU level to keep the wheels rolling on our projects. Thank you, Curtis!
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Cecilia Scott	I am writing to express my deep appreciation for Cecilia Scott, whose meticulous assistance has been invaluable to me in my latest web project. Cecilia's attention to detail is unparalleled. When she is in charge of taking a website from production to live, you can be assured that it will be done with the highest level of precision and care. Her eagle eye for spotting potential issues ensures that our sites are launched smoothly and without trouble. Although I try not to consult with her too much outside of consulting hours, there have been occasions when I needed her expertise, and she has always been willing to help in any way she can. Her thorough approach to thinking through problems, solutions, and unintended consequences serves as a model for others. Cecilia possesses special skills in the administration of our content management system. She knows all the ins and outs, tips, and tricks necessary for successful operation. She is also excellent at receiving feedback about the CMS and ensuring that it is communicated to the vendor. Her genuine curiosity and knack for getting to the root of problems are truly
10/22/2024	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	

	commendable. Additionally, Cecilia manages consulting hours twice a week with great efficiency, running triage for the myriad of participants and issues that arise. There have been many times when she is juggling more plates during that hour than seems feasible for any one person, but she does it expertly. I continue to be grateful for Cecilia's support and the positive impact she has had on my work. Thank you, Cecilia!
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Andrew Karnolt	I would like to express my appreciation for Andrew Karnolt, who has given me weekly support over the past year for a big web redesign project. He is always eager to help, even when he doesn't have an immediate answer. He diligently works to find the right solution, often investing time beyond our scheduled consultation hours. Since joining VCU, I've enjoyed seeing Andrew make great progress with his CSS skills and he seems to have new tricks up his sleeve each week during consulting hour that benefit the projects I'm working on. I also appreciate his willingness to share about other projects he is working on with me, which provides me valuable learning opportunities. His development of several web products, such as the widget for integrating data from Google Sheets, has been particularly useful in my web projects. Thank you, Andrew, for continuing to provide me and other members of the web community with excellent support!
10/22/2024	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	

Joel Eisner	I would like to express my gratitude and admiration for Joel Eisner. Over the course of the most recent web redesign I oversaw (and in other projects over many years now), Joel was an essential asset and significantly contributed to the
10/22/2024	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	

	project's success. Joel's web development skills are truly exceptional. His expertise with the Compass web framework is unparalleled, and his programming prowess is unmatched. He has been instrumental in every phase of our project, from start to finish. Joel's impact was particularly notable in the development of the directory content type and the home page display, but his contributions extended to numerous other areas, both big and small, on a weekly basis. Joel has not only provided outstanding technical support but has also been a great mentor. He is always patient and generous with his instruction, ensuring that I understand the processes and can develop my own skills. His work is of the highest quality and his thoughtful approach to problem-solving is a model I try and most often fall short of achieving. VCU is incredibly fortunate to have Joel. His commitment to excellence and his willingness to go above and beyond make him truly an irreplaceable asset. If he were to leave, it would undoubtedly expose gaps in our capabilities that his expertise currently fills. Working with Joel has made a significant difference for me and the projects I work on, and I continue to be beyond grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with him. Thank you for everything, Joel!
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Robin Lahaye	I wanted to recognize Robin for the support she's given our Pre-Professional Health counseling team so far this semester. She has been busy with appointments, especially as a few members on our team have been out of the office for longer periods of time. She jumped into teaching a UNIV course, supports student employee supervision, and is always willing to represent our office through attendance at events. Robin
10/3/2024	
Submitted by: Ashley Worthington	

	managed all of this while also managing a frustratingly long jury duty assignment. Thank you, Robin! We appreciate you!
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September

Jennifer Tennison	Jennifer's proactive, thoughtful, and student-centered work on informative data dashboards has changed the ways people engage with recruitment planning and strategy development. Without a direct request, she created new market analysis dashboards that rival tools that the institution would pay thousands to access. She meets 1:1 with employees and continually improves our systems of identifying opportunities for growth of our academic programs. Jennifer seamlessly connects data to action and is a proactive and responsive colleague. She inspires excellence and we would not be where we are in SOE without her engagement and creativity.
9/27/2024	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

Dana Parent	Dana has been amazing in supporting us with our vendor relationship. Since our initial engagement, Dana's attention to detail, prompt follow-up, and expertise have contributed significantly to the smooth progression of our collaborative efforts. Working with Dana has been a delight, and our team is so thankful for the seamless process he has helped create.
9/27/2024	
Submitted by: Shanea Raj	

Allison McLarin	I would like to recognize Allison for her eagerness to learn and her ability to adapt quickly and effectively when unexpected challenges arise. She consistently demonstrates care for both her colleagues and the participants in our program, ensuring that all participant-facing materials are clear and well-organized.
9/26/2024	
Submitted by: Ariana Lee	

		Allison's energy is infectious, and her positive attitude is a motivating force, especially during busy or demanding periods. Her dedication to the team and the program makes her a joy to work with, and I truly appreciate her contributions.
Bradley Lile		Bradley has been a consistent and wonderful electrician for many of our departmental requests, specifically the most recent project we have had him work on has made a significant impact to our space and how our graduate students use their office. I submitted a ticket for a replacement bulb, and when he stopped by I asked him questions regarding changing the lenses in the lights in our graduate student office. His knowledge about the subject helped us submit the proper ticket in order to request new lenses which ultimately brightened the space, and made it more usable for our graduate students who are assigned to the office. We appreciate the attentiveness and communication regarding this project!!
9/25/2024		
Submitted by: Ellie Roberts		
Caitlin Wall		I want to recognize Caitlin Wall for stepping up during a recent session with an external speaker for our program Scholars. When a colleague was unexpectedly out sick, Caitlin volunteered to take the lead, and when I encountered technical difficulties, she stepped into my role with little notice. Caitlin handled the last-minute changes with grace, seamlessly managing the session and ensuring everything ran smoothly. Her poise and adaptability in a challenging situation were impressive, and I deeply appreciate her willingness to go above and beyond. I'm grateful to have Caitlin on the team and for her dedication to our work.
9/25/2024		
Submitted by: Ariana Lee		

Eric Ellis	The PCM team would like to recognize Eric for his prompt responsiveness in providing technological solutions for the PCM course. His dedication to understanding the intricacies of our course is a valuable contribution. Thank you for your outstanding work.
9/23/2024	
Submitted by: Denny Henson	

Caitlin Hanbury	I want to take a moment to acknowledge Caitlin's creativity and initiative in working with the CLC team to edit and reimagine the CLC webpage. It is clear that she possesses a unique ability to think outside the box and bring fresh ideas to the table in a team environment. Her initiative in taking the lead with passion and attention to detail exemplifies leadership and initiative. Thank you, Caitlin, for your dedication and for consistently pushing the boundaries of creativity in everything you do!
9/9/2024	
Submitted by: Meredith Deegan	

Ashli Phillips	Ashli is an incredible asset to the School of Medicine! She organizes and plans so many things - from small meetings to larger events - and all are done with care, concern, dedication, and expertise. Not only is she a great resource for lots of information when people seek it, she also anticipates needs that people may not even know they have. More simply put, she thinks of everything!
9/12/2024	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Keith Miles	Keith is an amazing employee and I am so glad I get to have him in my network of support for my department's spaces. He is always able to give me a call or stop by my office to update me on the progress of my tickets. He is always willing to give a helping hand and provides insight for what it is going on with each issue that is presented. Having the additional insight helps me when I am submitting tickets in
9/9/2024	
Submitted by: Ellie Roberts	

	the future. He deserves special recognition in the demeanor he holds to faculty and staff, it is rare to have an interaction with him that doesn't involve some laughing or some good conversation. While at the same time addressing the issue at hand in a timely and effective manner!
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Zachary Demitri	Zachary is always very timely in his response to my work order requests, and is able to ensure the proper functioning of our spaces. I never have to worry about HVAC issues long and that is due to the teamwork and responsiveness of both him and Keith. The communication is always great and I am made aware of when projects are on hold due to materials needed, or when a project is complete. I am never left wondering!
9/9/2024	
Submitted by: Ellie Roberts	

Dana Parent	Dana has gone above and beyond to answer questions for both myself and vendors, offering exceptional expertise and follow-through and educating me on so many complexities and steps of IT Procurement, including scheduling a meeting to further support procurement needs in this category.
9/6/2024	
Submitted by: Chevy Newell	

August

Julia Wells	Julia significantly contributed to the successful completion of a major project over the last two years in Global Learning which has just been completed: the new education abroad website! This project required a focused commitment over an extended period of time with many moving parts and various roadblocks along the way. Julia's hard work, determination, and focus on the project over the last two
8/28/2024	
Submitted by: Stephanie Tignor	

	years contributed to the completion of the project this week when the site went live. Her contributions to this major project are much appreciated and will result in a better user experience for our students. Julia and her colleagues who worked on the project should be very proud of themselves!
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Alex Heyden	Alex significantly contributed to the successful completion of a major project over the last two years in Global Learning which has just been completed: the new education abroad website! This project required a focused commitment over an extended period of time with many moving parts and various roadblocks along the way. Alex's hard work, determination, and focus on the project over the last two years contributed to the completion of the project this week when the site went live. Her contributions to this major project are much appreciated and will result in a better user experience for our students. Alex and her colleagues who worked on the project should be very proud of themselves!
8/28/2024	
Submitted by: Stephanie Tignor	

Amy Leap	Amy led the education abroad team in Global Learning to complete a major project over the last two years which has just been completed: the new education abroad website! This project required a focused commitment over an extended period of time with many moving parts and various roadblocks along the way. She had to learn hone her project management skills and tech skills in the process. Her organizational skills and motivational leadership of her team allowed her, her two specialists, and an hourly employee to complete the project this week when the site went live. Her determination to complete the project was excellent and the
8/28/2024	
Submitted by: Stephanie Tignor	

	new site looks fantastic! This is the second major tech/web project that Amy has achieved in her role, and she should be very proud of herself and her team!
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Bree Bolin	I am so glad that Bree is in our department! She is currently working on a lot of onboarding, and the new employees are in very good hands with her. It's often challenging to be a clinical department within the School of Medicine, because we have employees with VCU needs, VCU Health needs, and sometimes the need for both, the case of dual faculty members. That can be a hard structure for current employees to navigate, let alone people new to VCU, and Bree is very good about making it seem less intimidating. She may not be able to answer a given question because it's specific to the health system, but she will point you in the right direction and make sure you get what you need. This is a really large workplace, and Bree works to make it seem a lot smaller and more manageable, and I know so many of us appreciate that. Thank you, Bree!
8/26/2024	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Andrea Reed	I want to recognize Andrea for her initiative, creative thinking, and positive attitude. She recognized an issue with scheduling clinical hours and simulation hours and worked to quickly brainstorm creative solutions and collaborate with others to implement a plan. She is organized, thoughtful, and takes initiative to think of both the student and faculty experience with teaching learning opportunities. Kudos to Andrea for her collaboration and innovative ideas!
8/16/2024	
Submitted by: Meredith Deegan	

Lauren Goeke	Lauren has taken initiative to work on many CLC projects this summer that further the teaching learning opportunities
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8/16/2024	that we are able to offer students and staff for simulation activities and events. Her knowledge of the INACSL best practices for simulation, attention to detail, and curiosity and drive to be an expert in simulation are reflected through her daily work in the CLC. I would like to recognize Lauren for her initiative and foresight in looking at the creation of a rubric for NURS 425 simulation activities. The information she collected will help to build better learning experiences for students. Thank you, Lauren!
Submitted by: Meredith Deegan	

Leslie Lantz	Over the summer semester, Leslie has taken initiative to work on many CLC projects. She is a creative thinker with a positive "can-do" attitude and steps up to offer her time and talents to help meet the needs of the students and faculty who use the CLC. She has come up with creative solutions, such as the OB Bootcamp, and has done a masterful job organizing this large event with many moving pieces. I am impressed by Leslie's dedication and initiative at the SON. I am grateful to have her on the team!
8/16/2024	
Submitted by: Meredith Deegan	

Sue McGinnis	Sue has been an integral part of implementing Echo360 technology in innovative ways in the CLC. She has gone above and beyond to support the CLC team in learning and using Echo360 technology throughout this summer semester, especially with novel or large simulation activities and events. In addition, Sue has collaborated with the team to develop an Echo manual so that we can create standardized and documented processes around our current and future use of this technology. Each interaction we have had during this process has been positive and collaborative. Sue takes the initiative to
8/16/2024	
Submitted by: Meredith Deegan	

	understand a problem, think of creative solutions, and follow up in a timely manner. She supports new learning technologies that meet the needs of our faculty and students at the School of Nursing. Kudos to Sue for a job well done. We look forward to continuing to collaborate with Sue!
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Katey Nichols	Katey is just the best. When I needed to learn Smartsheet, she always took the time from her busy schedule to teach me. And even now, when I have a question, she is always available. Today, I noticed that an automation was not working properly. I chatted her to see if she was still working (4:45PM) and if she had a minute to look at something. She immediately responded that she was and she right away looked at what I had asked. She not only found the problem but fixed it within minutes. This is not anything new for Katey. Ask anyone at CHP that interacts with her. She is always helpful, respectful and such a hard worker. VCU is lucky to have her!
8/8/2024	
Submitted by: Cyndi Finefrock	

July

Michal Coffey	Kudos to Michal for being the type of leader to say an immediate and enthusiastic "YES!" when asked to share about the Campus Learning Center with the entire division. When the SEMSS Engagement Committee began planning a series of Lunch and Learn sessions in July, Michal immediately responded to our request that she would be happy to facilitate a session on ANY day of the month! This type of professional development, collaboration, and
7/26/2024	
Submitted by: Sara Rafuse	

	SHARING across units within the division is so important. We greatly appreciate her initiative, responsiveness, and willingness to go above and beyond for our staff and in turn, the students that we serve.
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Justin Yeaman	The SEMSS Engagement Committee requested a Lunch and Learn presentation on community service and leave, and Justin gave up his lunch hour to engage with staff on this topic. In true Justin style his presentation was well thought out and engaging. We appreciate that Justin is always willing to step up to the plate when asked, and many across the division benefitted from his session. Thank you, Justin!
7/26/2024	
Submitted by: Sara Rafuse	

Elizabeth Bambacus	During one of the busiest times of year for her area, Elizabeth went above and beyond for the SEMSS Division and facilitated a lunch and learn about YouFirst and the First Gen Research Center. This type of professional development, collaboration, and SHARING across units within the division is so important! We have received several messages of positive feedback from her presentation. Thank you for your leadership Elizabeth!
7/26/2024	
Submitted by: Sara Rafuse	

Brian McTague	The SEMSS Engagement Committee sent an invitation to division leaders to offer the opportunity to host a lunch and learn for the division in July. This was a chance for leaders to talk with the division as a whole about programs, initiatives, and updates from different areas, and a chance to engage with staff that they might not normally engage with. This type of professional development, collaboration, and sharing across units within the division is so important. Not only was Brian one of the leaders who answered
7/26/2024	
Submitted by: Sara Rafuse	

	the call, and stepped up to the plate to talk about the great things happening in his office, he was one of the very first "yes" responses. He recruited the entire Writing Center professional staff to put together a fantastic presentation with him, and many across the division benefitted.
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Alfonso Amanecer	The SEMSS Engagement Committee sent an invitation to division leaders to offer the opportunity to host a lunch and learn for the division in July. This was a chance for leaders to talk with the division as a whole about programs, initiatives, and updates from different areas, and a chance to engage with staff that they might not normally engage with. This type of professional development, collaboration, and sharing across units within the division is so important. In the midst of a very busy time in his office, Alfonso was one of 6 leaders who answered the call and stepped up to the plate to talk about the great things happening in his office. We so appreciate his initiative, time, and the effort he put into his presentation! Many across the division benefitted.
7/26/2024	
Submitted by: Sara Rafuse	

Michael Loving	The morning of the University-Wide computer outage, we were both at the Operations Center before 6am. Every 30 to 45mins, he was kindly checking on me, asking what I needed (and even offered to get me coffee at one point). As the Director of Ops, part of his job is ensuring this vital operation to the University stays running effectively, and he granted me the space and time to get it back up, trusting in me fully. Later in the morning, he took the liberty of making a very detailed sheet of all the users who are experiencing the outage on my behalf. Due to Facilities size and landscape, there are many offices that are in buildings I do not frequent. He sent
7/22/2024	
Submitted by: Michaela Schwarzschild	

	this sheet to all of the directors, who were able to provide me all the precise details and locations I needed to get everyone working again. If I didn't have that working sheet, there may still be users without working machines. Because of his initiative to support me and Facilities, I was able to get to every computer in 3 [business] days. That simply would not have been possible without his efforts, and I'm incredibly grateful for the support. He consistently goes above and beyond for his colleagues, employees, and teammates, and I'm honored to be one of them. Thank you so much, Mike!
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Melissa Yancey	Melissa is a strong team player and a hard worker. She has been learning a lot in her role as a grants research administrator and is always willing to help out her teammates when they are out of the office. This was the case on Friday, July 19th. While covering for a teammate on one of their assigned grant proposals, Melissa discovered that the budget was entered incorrectly on the sponsor portal and jumped into action to correct it, which took a significant amount of time. Not only did Melissa correct the budget but she also reviewed the rest of the proposal and corrected other aspects as needed. I truly appreciate her close attention to detail and her ability to use what she has learned in her role to be able to spot critical errors. Melissa completed this while also having her own workload to complete and three other teammates not being able to log-in to their computers due to the global outage. Melissa is extremely reliable and showing that she is capable of much more. Thank you so much, Melissa!!! I am proud of you; keep up the good work!!!
7/22/2024	
Submitted by: Felicia Harris	

Kristina Sandberg	Kristina stepped in and mastered a new technology, vital for the Clinical Learning Center, very quickly. With very little lead time, she took the initiative to troubleshoot, research, and test out scenarios on her own. Her initiative resulted in several successful simulation scenarios with a multitude of students and classes. Well done, Kristina!
7/17/2024	
Submitted by: Sue McGinnis	
Barry Lanneau	I want to take a moment to express my gratitude to my mentor, Barry, for his support and guidance over the past year through the ITCC Mentorship program. Whether it was providing advice or simply being a sounding board, his help has been invaluable. His willingness to share his time and knowledge has made a significant impact on my growth and confidence. I am truly grateful for the encouragement and wisdom he has offered throughout the year. Thank you, Barry, for being an inspiring mentor and a trusted advisor.
7/5/2024	
Submitted by: Ella Danilovich	
Lena Zharekhin	I want to recognize you for all the hard work and progress you've made this year. Your journey as a web developer has been inspiring, and it's been great to see your growth. I'm proud to hear about your aspiration to become the next ITCC Mentorship Chair-Elect. I believe you'll bring fresh ideas to the role and help our program grow! Thank you for making this mentorship experience rewarding. I look forward to seeing what you'll achieve in the future.
7/5/2024	
Submitted by: Ella Danilovich	

July

Sue McGinnis	Though Sue is not part of the communications/web team, she generously offered to consult with me for an extended period of time (on a Friday afternoon no less!) to help me with a Smartsheet workflow I was struggling with. It was clear when we consulted that she had also spent a great deal of prep time ahead of the meeting to come up with some specific solution proposals that really helped me understand the platform better and her suggestions cleared the way for me to get my web content review process underway. Thank you, Sue, for helping me clear up the log jam I was in and for modeling generosity and collaboration!
6/18/2024	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	

Ella Danilovich	I want to thank Ella for her amazing leadership of the ITCC mentoring program this year. There is almost assuredly no other career community at VCU with such a caring and capable leader at its helm. Ella took this role to the next level, always seeking input for ways to improve the program and implementing the feedback she received from the community. Under her leadership, the program thrived and she kept mentors and mentees engaged with her newsletters, surveys, and even in-person events. I appreciated how she recognized mentor and mentee service at the end of the year with an email callout and pizza celebration. Thank you, Ella, for managing and growing this mentoring community. The next mentorship chair will have enormous shoes to fill!
6/18/2024	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	

Martin Gonzalez Valenzuela	I provided mentorship to Martin this year as part of the ITCC mentorship program. I was consistently impressed by his progress in advancing his communication skills. His attention to workplace dynamics demonstrates interpersonal awareness
6/10/2024	

Submitted by: Jen Elswick	and great potential for navigating complex environments effectively. With practice and opportunity, this will only improve and I encourage him to continue to seek out ways to challenge himself in this domain. His focus on self-improvement and professional development is inspiring and clearly positions him for continued advancement. I couldn't be more pleased with his decision to enroll in VCU's undergraduate program and look forward to the day when we will call him an alumni! Martin is a wonderful asset for VCU who has a bright future. I was inspired by his example and look forward to his continued success!
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Danny Tiet	Danny has been an incredibly empathetic and thoughtful mentor over the last 8 months. Through small things like sending recommendations for mental and physical health improvements, to larger things like guiding me through my next big steps in my career. He's an invaluable person to me, both personally and professionally, because of the mentorship and School of Dentistry is very lucky to have him!
6/6/2024	
Submitted by: Michaela Schwarzschild	

Felicia Harris	Felicia is a great leader and has put together a great CHS-SPO research team. Not only does she always believe in her team but always stands up for her team. In addition, Felicia has thus far been an exceptional colleague and strong role model by always leading by example. Her team can trust that she will always lead them with a robust inward conviction to do right thing with strong moral principles. She encourages open and honest communication within the team. She also shows that she is trustworthy, caring, kind, reliable, responsible, fair, listens, keeps her word, follows through, accepts criticism, accountable, and apologizes.
6/6/2024	
Submitted by: Laniece Jones	

	These are qualities of a great leader! Felicia is a great asset to the college, CHS leadership, the team and the university! We value Felicia and want to recognize her for always having our backs and doing what is right! Even without knowing if anyone knows whether she did it or not!
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Aditi Sharma	There's recently been a transition of Aditi moving from the Psychology department to the central CHS-SPO team of the Dean's office. In this short time, Aditi has been taking on a lot of duties in the interim as well as getting to know her new teammates on the SPO team. In this process, Aditi has already taken the initiative in showing her other teammates how to do certain duties to meet compliance with various grants tasks that were left behind when another staff member recently left the university. She has been extremely pleasant to work with and she is open to collaborating with others for the betterment of the situation at hand. Transitioning is not easy, and the process is not yet over, but I've seen enough from Aditi that exemplifies so much integrity and respect that she has shown thus far. I am excited to have her on the team and cannot wait to see how her contributions will positively add to it. Thanks for all that you do, Aditi! I value your hard work ethic!!!
6/6/2024	
Submitted by: Felicia Harris	

Suzanna Levey	Suzanna has gone above and beyond in her duties of pre and post award. She has been extremely helpful, knowledgeable and reliable. She is always available and responsive whenever needed. She is a team player, hard worker and her follow through is exceptional. She was able to get a difficult grant out on time. The budget was the largest difficult part of the
6/6/2024	
Submitted by: Laniece Jones	

	grant and she was able to submit it in the most pristine condition. We value Suzanna and want to recognize her skills and abilities! Thank you Suzanna!
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Meghan Depue	This recognition is long overdue for Meghan Depue. I have had the honor of working with Meghan for over 1 year. What Meghan has done to support the undergraduate advising team in the School of Education goes beyond this recognition. Meghan has created a system to where we are able to generate plans of study for our undergraduate students in a way that not only helps with understanding who needs to complete what courses, but also project course needs and when students should expect to be at a certain point in their academic progress. But that's not all. Meghan has brought her skillset to assisting the graduate students in the School of Education. Meghan has worked with me over this past semester to create a system of generating plans of study for our residency. Not only does it help with creating classes, but with our residents in a cohort, ensures that they know which classes collectively they need to be taking together. To put the icing on the cake, Meghan saw a need that we had and took the initiative to create something that will help us be more efficient. I am fortunate to call Meghan a teammate & am more than happy to recognize her for the incredible work she has & continues to do for the School of Education.
6/4/2024	
Submitted by: Donte Sharpe	

May

Karen Mullins	Karen Mullins worked on a major project related to licensure for multiple programs in the SOE and other schools at VCU. The
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5/28/2024	work required extreme attention to detail and organization. Karen's efforts allowed the SOE to complete the task on time and her documentation will serve as a basis for future reporting. Excellent and timely responsiveness from our colleague who is new to our school!
Submitted by: Joan Rhodes	

Marian Dixon	Marian is an excellent problem solver and a wonderful (and tireless!) advocate for our department! She has been with us since late November 2023, and she has worked to understand our department policies and procedures and update them for efficiency when applicable. She is one of the leaders of our admin team, and we are in great hands with her and our department administrator at the helm. She works to explain things clearly and concisely, and she also works to ensure that problems she is tasked with solving have reasonable and timely solutions. We are lucky to have such an awesome colleague in Family Medicine - thank you, Marian!
5/16/2024	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Tim Westberg	Tim provided amazing coverage for me while I was out of the office on medical leave from Feb - Mar 2024. I wanted to publicly acknowledge my gratefulness. Tim provides phenomenal support to our 350+ graduate nursing students. His communication is impeccable. I have enjoyed working with him in the two years he has been at the school. He truly is an asset to the school, students, faculty, staff and university as a whole. Thank you Tim!
5/14/2024	
Submitted by: Fonda Neal	

Teri Smith	Teri is always happily willing to assist when help is needed. She has her hands full supporting the undergraduate programs along with scheduling of all nursing courses, room scheduling for the
5/14/2024	

Submitted by: Fonda Neal	entire SON building, and her other responsibilities. I am grateful for Teri's help with graduate programs curriculum/committee support while I was out of the office on medical leave from Feb - Mar 2024. I am equally appreciative of her initiating handling the PhD program curricular updates that were due to the university recently. Teri is an amazing teammate. She is truly an asset to the school, students, faculty, staff and university as a whole. Thank you so much Teri!
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Nathan Hilsenbrand and Tom Myrick	Nathan and Tom have been helping me with various website tasks over the last month or so (even longer, honestly!), and every time we've had questions, they have had answers that will work within our SOMTech template. They both explain things really well and make it easy for me to understand, and they are very thorough and quick in their responses. I also appreciate their patience with me, as I definitely still have my T4 blind spots, and they never make me feel as though I've asked the same question multiple times (though I'm sure that has happened!). My department colleagues and I all know that we are in very good hands with both of them and that we are going to get answers that are helpful and feasible to get done. I learn a lot whenever I interact with them, and I truly appreciate that. We are lucky to have both of them in SOM!
5/10/2024	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Ashley Worthington	I wanted to take a moment to share some of Ashley's contributions to the Student Success Engagement Committee, and thus the entire division, this year! Ashley regularly attends our committee meetings and volunteers herself to help with just about every event we have put on. The SEMSS SYC clothing drive would not
5/8/2024	
Submitted by: Sara Rafuse	

	have happened without her and her initiative. Most recently, she has organized an upcoming Naloxone training for SEMSS staff in July. Throughout the year she has helped us organize morning meet ups over coffee, she helped provide decorations for our end of Fall semester celebration, picked trash during our Earth Day cleanup, and she has even reached out to Lewis Ginter as well as You-First to explore programming for SEMSS staff. I'm sure I am missing some of the fabulous things she has done, but as co-chair I just wanted to make sure she knows how much she is appreciated. If there is one person we can count on to unmute herself on Zoom and say "I can do that" or "I can help with that" it is Ashley Worthington!
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Rebekah Jewers	Rebekah is the most amazing person to work with when trying to herd undergraduate research assistants through the Federal Work Study Program! She is highly responsive and completely professional. She is one of our employees who truly makes us run efficiently and with care. She is always game to answer my or my FWS students' questions, listen to our concerns and with her positivity, solutions-oriented thinking, and genuine kindness, we feel like she is truly there for us! She is truly special and is deserving of the highest praise!
5/6/2024	
Submitted by: Liz Canfield	

David Spivey	The School of Education had three state and federal reports due this week. David played an instrumental role in collecting accurate, clear, and timely information for the reports as he does every year. This year, though, we hit some technical snags with two of the three reports. David went above and beyond, connecting the national agency and state representatives and colleagues to understand the issue,
5/1/2024	
Submitted by: Angie Wetzel	

	seek clarity on how to move forward, and to ensure the work was completed, not just by deadlines, but with professional communications and integrity through what were some frustrating technical challenges. I appreciate his hard work, initiative, and representation of the SOE internally to our other offices and to the Virginia Department of Education and our national accreditor, CAEP.
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April

LaTonja Wright	Ms. Wright has served in various roles within the T/TAC organization with integrity. This year marks five years of service as a VCU employee. In the past five years of her tenure, she has served individuals with disabilities well, worked collaboratively with colleagues, and provided training and technical assistance aligning with the goals, and mission of Virginia Commonwealth University.
4/16/2024	
Submitted by: Phyllis Haynes	

Brad Williams	On April 11 the Wright Center had a research presentation for VCU Research Weeks. Brad gave me valuable feedback on how to effectively run a successful hybrid event. His suggestions contributed to the success of the research presentation for those who attended in person and virtually. He was also very helpful in giving me backup, which I greatly appreciated.
4/12/2024	
Submitted by: Lillie Lattimore	

Jayda Tinsley	Jayda goes over and beyond to assist customers resolve their issues.
4/4/2024	

Submitted by: Jay Bolling	
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Mariah Taghavia-Moghadam	Mariah has been a steadfast, creative, positive and thoughtful leader within her department and in collaboration with recruitment initiatives with my office. In the last year she has taken on additional responsibilities across SOE to support acute operational items across departments. She serves as an informal mentor and trainer for new staff members to department level roles- she does this without prompting or request. Mariah's initiative, respect for others, and willingness to support her fellow colleagues is a model to be showcased widely. SOE is better with Mariah on the team, and I am constantly impressed with her ability to connect individuals across departments to support students holistically. Thank you, Mariah!
4/2/2024	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

March

Isaak Hopson	Happy VCU Service Anniversary Isaak! At Massey we so appreciate your skills, service, and drive in support of our mission and stakeholders. It is true that teamwork makes the dream work! You have done an excellent job at tackling your new role and bringing your best every. single. day. We thank you for your dedication to Massey and the larger VCU community!
3/29/2024	
Submitted by: Danielle Terrell	

Silvana D'Ettorre	Silvana has been with the VCU Career Services team for few years now in two different roles -- one on the Career Advising side and one on our Employer & Experiential Development side, in addition
3/21/2024	

Submitted by: Samara Reynolds

to serving as Chair of our Cohesion Committee. I want to give a special shout out to Silvana for her responsiveness, responsibility, and initiative displayed in a few different areas of recent note. First, I received an inquiry from the VCU Government Relations team regarding several alumni on Capitol Hill that expressed interest in connecting with and sharing insights with students. I shared this information with Silvana and she worked quickly and effectively with alumni/employer contacts and campus partners (faculty/staff) to design and market an official panel event this semester -- turning an idea into reality and supporting students, colleagues, and VCU alumni in the process. Second, this year Silvana took on new responsibilities related to the VCU First Destination Survey, supporting administration and tech systems behind the scenes to take things on that had previously been on my plate for the project, coming up with process improvements and great questions along the way, and also making sure we had staffing for the recent Grad Fair event to collect data and support the VCU Alumni team. Lastly, when a colleague had to be out unexpectedly and needed a student-facing presentation covered for a campus partner, even though Silvana no longer serves on the Career Advising Team, she was willing to step in and up to take this request on last minute, making sure her colleague felt supported and that students were served. All three of these notable contributions have happened in the last few weeks, while Silvana has been concurrently doing an awesome job with her primary responsibilities and balancing a great deal. I want to thank Silvana and recognize her for all that she makes possible for our team, employer partners, and campus community.

Tiffany Pignatello	Tiffany Pignatello always goes above and beyond in her work. She arrives early and stays late and still somehow manages to interact with everyone- participant and colleague alike, with mindfulness, empathy, and intention. On one notable instance Tiffany not only counseled and provided a research participant with resources to access substance use treatment care, but also went out of her way to physically walk with the participant to the motivate clinic. The participant was so touched they were in tears. She is the epitome of subject first research and we are so lucky people like her are involved.
3/20/2024	
Submitted by: Christina La Rosa	

Cameron White	My main goal as building manager for the department of Psychology, is to make all occupants feel comfortable. To that end, I have submitted tickets for the many ac units I have spread out among my properties. Cameron is always responsive with timely maintenance - from cleaning and repairing old units to installing new ones. Cameron also carries himself with integrity and will keep me posted on the status of the work he is performing. I can always count on the ticket being closed properly when I know Cameron has the ticket.
3/10/2024	
Submitted by: James Draper	

Chante Holt	I had a tight turnaround with a sponsor and Chante was responsive, knowledgeable, and kind. She helped figure out an error and got the invoice in on time.
3/4/2024	
Submitted by: Nick Fetzer	

February

Sarah Briland	Sarah Briland has gone above and beyond to support an international student experiencing a very serious personal challenge. She has coordinated with multiple units, including GEO, to support the student, and has show the student and their family incredible empathy, support, and care during a very difficult time. Sarah has gone beyond the role of academic advisor and has proven herself to be an incredible advocate. GEO is grateful for Sarah's utmost care and attention and for stepping up in the way she has.
2/5/2024	
Submitted by: Stephanie Tignor	

Roger Butler	I could nominate Roger for all of the items on this form: initiative, integrity, respect and responsiveness. Roger is a thoughtful and proactive colleague who gives his all in each interaction. School of Education is a complex admissions operations school, with different needs for different audiences in the admissions process, and Roger works with us as a dedicated colleague as we support future students. He is responsive and takes initiative to think of potential challenges down the road as we solve problems together. I appreciate his leadership and his perspective in each interaction. When we have an issue, he is quick to respond and support. VCU is lucky to have Roger.
2/5/2024	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

Carla Dannouf	Carla provides incredible fiscal grant support and goes way above and beyond in making sure my NOAA grant stays on track and that all information is accessible for a non-fiscal person to understand. She's amazing!
2/5/2024	
Submitted by: Mindy VanDevelder	

Jamie Simmons	I recently had to have a contract signed immediately because the requesting department was under a tight timeline of having the contract and deposit submitted to hold the date for an upcoming event. I emailed Jamie (who was out of the office for a few days) regarding this urgent matter and she responded. She took the time (although being off) to review the contract, send it to John McHugh for signature, and return it to me. I just want to acknowledge Jamie for going above and beyond to help me get this matter resolved on her days off. I am so appreciative. THANK YOU JAMIE!!!
2/1/2024	
Submitted by: Marjorie Nesmith	

Nathan Hilsenbrand	Nathan has been assisting me with a few different website-related tasks, and I am definitely in good hands! He has advised me on photo sizes needed for Portfolio, as well as a bunch of different things on the back end of T4. With whatever assistance he provides, he strikes that difficult balance of knowing when to teach me how to do certain tasks and when to do the more advanced tasks himself, but he explains what's happening in a way that makes sense so I know what's basically going on (even when the mechanics are way beyond my understanding!). His office hours are super helpful, and I feel much more confident in my skills knowing that he is available for questions (or a quick fix if I've really made a mess of things!) and is very patient and understanding - he's a great teacher. Believe me, this goes a very long way! He also follows up to be sure I have the resolution I need to any given problem. Nathan is an awesome colleague, and I'm glad I get to work with him in the School of Medicine!
2/1/2024	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Jake Franko and Greg	Jake and Greg received an urgent 7:30 AM request to provide crucial information
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Eskridge	to a functional team member before 8:00 AM, ensuring timely processing of a highly important process. Collaborating seamlessly, they went above and beyond VCU's regular operating hours to promptly address the user's needs and meet the extremely tight deadline. Recognizing the importance of preemptive action, they revised existing processes to automatically provide the requested information as a part of daily communication in case of future occurrences. Furthermore, they requested to engage with the technical team to investigate the root cause of the issue, exploring preventive measures for its recurrence. Jake and Greg's outstanding responsiveness and proactive approach are truly commendable. Kudos for your exceptional efforts!
2/1/2024	
Submitted by: Deborah Baines	

Kathryn Bunce	I cannot stress enough how grateful my team is for Kathy and everything she does for us, the Procurement Team, and VCU as a whole. She is always there to lend a hand.
2/1/2024	
Submitted by: Alex Josephs	

January

Chris Parthemos	Chris had given an overview of Looker Studio at a session a while back, and I had remembered it when I encountered a need to display qualitative data in my own work. I had not remembered how to do use Looker Studio, so I reached out to Chris with the hope that he would help me out. Chris quickly responded to my email and set up a Zoom meeting with me to walk me through how to accomplish my goal. He showed up to the meeting prepared, used our time efficiently, and
1/31/2024	
Submitted by: Meghan Depue	

	answered all of my questions with helpful comments and a smile. I am very appreciative of his efforts to support me as a fellow colleague!
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Nery Prera	This recognition is for Nery's tireless efforts, as I have observed from Fall 2023 until now. Nery shows integrity, initiative, respect, and responsiveness. Nery always goes above and beyond when called upon for a service request in the 15 Psychology spaces I am building manager for. My most recent request was to paint a faculty office. Not only did he assist in suggesting color selections, he also provided valuable insights on how to paint the office to make the room seem bigger. Nery kept in contact with me during the entire process and the result was impressive for me and the faculty member. This is just one example of how Nery doesn't just show up to do the job, he understands the problem and educates on possible solutions. He is a master of his craft and I could not let the opportunity pass to express my gratitude for the work he has consistently done.
1/29/2024	
Submitted by: James Draper	

Delores Armstrong	Delores has been at VCU for over 20 years and has been in the OVPRI for over 2 years as the Assistant Director of Finance and Administration for our Division of Animal Resources. For the past 7 months she accepted the responsibility of serving as the Interim Director of HR for the OVPRI as well as all the duties related to her permanent position. Her dedication and expertise supported the entire OVPRI with superb HR and finance guidance while the office recruited for a permanent HR Director. Her leadership and attention to detail have been instrumental in keeping our HR and Finance responsibilities on task. Delores, I and our
1/26/2024	
Submitted by: Cathleen Finnerty	

	HR team appreciate the time an effort you've taken to support our progress and growth. Personally, I can't thank you enough for your support during this very busy time. Your numerous contributions to the OVPRI have not gone unnoticed and I want to openly acknowledge your efforts.
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Jay Draper	This kudos spans Jay's tireless efforts across fall 2023 and into January 2024. And even though I could only mark "initiative" on this form, Jay also exemplifies integrity, respect, and responsiveness. My gratitude for Jay cannot be stated in words, but I will try. Jay always keeps a positive, can-do attitude no matter how many curve balls and unexpected needs comes his way. Honestly, his role requires flexibility, patience, internal motivation to tackle the huge challenges, and a supportive approach to working with staff and faculty. Jay could not be more perfect for bringing all of those traits and skills to our department, but also just makes everyone feel seen and heard. I always know Jay is working hard behind the scenes to make everyone's work life a little less stressful and more pleasant! Thank you, Jay, for finding a way. And specifically, thank you to Jay for helping move into a new office that will support my work for years to come!
1/25/2024	
Submitted by: Kim Case	

Atlantis Johnson	Atlantis has been an amazing addition to OSP. She is very professional and highly responsive. She articulates all phases of OSP involvement in RAMS-SPOT and is willing to go that extra mile to make sure that the department's needs are met. I just want to take a moment to recognize her level of work and say thank you. We are all in this together and Atlantis makes us
1/24/2024	
Submitted by: Carla Dannouf	

	feel that way. She has even worked after hours to submit a very important grant for Dr. McKnight and we appreciate it. Everyone at OSP is helpful, but Atlantis is golden!
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Jennifer Carleton	Jennifer recently responded to an immediate organizational need in routing contracts for adjuncts within one of our departments. She was able to quickly prioritize the drafting of the contracts and initiate the hiring process for the department in record timing. Jennifer is a valued member of the team and her responsiveness, attention to detail, and ability to be agile is truly impressive and I'd like to recognize Jennifer for her efforts. Thank you, Jennifer, for all you do for the School of Education!
1/24/2024	
Submitted by: Scott Stech	

Christy Farmer	Christy has been working on a bunch of schedules (often juggling availabilities from committee members and candidates that don't always align), and she is keeping everything organized and clear for everyone involved. I don't know how she does it! In the midst of doing all of this work and working on another large logistical project, she helped me with a large project I was working on and took some of the stress off of my plate. This was a seemingly small task that made a huge difference, and this is very typical of the work that Christy does for so many of us. She's an awesome colleague in Family Medicine!
1/4/2024	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Ken Simon	I've had several interactions with Ken this year and in every one of them, he's been so responsive and helpful. Yesterday morning, my computer refused to let me log in, which prevented me from being
1/4/2024	

Submitted by: Evan French	able to work. I submitted a ticket and all before lunch, Ken emailed me, tried troubleshooting over a virtual session, and finally fixed the problem with an in-person consultation. I was back to being able to work that afternoon, which was a huge relief. I really appreciate Ken's help getting my issue resolved FAST!
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2023

December

Alantis Johnson	Huge thank you to Alantis for helping us even when the time was tight, the deadline was looming, and we were pressed to the last minute. We cannot be successful with our grant work if we don't get those applications in and Alantis was most helpful in getting this US Department of Ed submission over the line. Thank you for your continued support and for supporting the School of Education and the research mission at VCU. We appreciate it.
12/21/2023	
Submitted by: Jose Alcaine	

Sabrina Lumpkin	Special thanks to Sabrina for going the extra mile in helping us submit a grant to the US Department of ED. The application had some technical issues and challenges during the submission process and she was willing to help us at the 12th hour minus minutes. She went beyond the call and we appreciate it. Thank you for all your help in supporting the research mission at VCU. My colleagues and I really appreciate your work and help. Thank you.
12/21/2023	
Submitted by: Jose Alcaine	

Rita Crawford	Rita is a lifesaver! I procrastinated on Christmas cards (as usual) and needed to rush over to Scherer Hall in the middle of the day to drop them off before the University closed for break. Rita picked up the phone when I called ahead and we made a plan—she even ran outside and picked them up from my car so that I didn't have to pay for parking. Cards delivered just in time. Next year I will plan ahead so that I don't have to abuse her kindness again, but in the meantime I am very grateful for this holiday hero!
12/19/2023	
Submitted by: Michael Kyrychenko	

Alexis (Lexi) Jefferson	Alexis Jefferson ('Lexi') consistently performs well above average, going above and beyond what might be expected of her in her normal duties. This has had an extremely positive effect on the successful operation of my team's studies and I am very grateful that she is on our (collective) team. On every interaction Lexi has been knowledgeable on what needs to occur and when that needs to happen, and has even assisted me with organizing things when I have been less organized than I would like. And she has done this with an outstandingly positive attitude. I cannot stress how much this has contributed to the success of our current studies.
12/19/2023	
Submitted by: Michael Kyrychenko	

Kenneth (Ken) Simon	I nominate Ken Simon for outstanding job performance. In general Ken is always extremely responsive to any IT needs that arise and able to handle these situations in a professional and timely manner. Recently there was an unusual incident that required Ken's immediate assistance, for which he jumped right in to troubleshoot and resolve without hesitation, going above and beyond what might be normally expected of him. He should be commended for this. Thank you.
12/14/2023	
Submitted by: Kirsty Dixon	

Nicole Nielsen	I nominate Nicole Nielsen as an outstanding employee. This is not just for any one single incident but because of her desire to want to provide the best possible service possible every single day. Nicole shows initiative to get the things done that need to get done on a daily basis, has integrity to want to do those tasks at the highest quality possible, and respects those around her while achieving this level of greatness. Nicole is also quite literally the fastest of anyone to respond to and assist with, requests from faculty she works with, no matter the size of the issue. And did I mention both her competence and being a team player yet? Well I should have because these are possibly Nicole's biggest strengths. Her ability to competently manage requests from those faculty she works with even when there are looming deadlines. But she works hard to successfully help push the team forward. She needs to be commended on her outstanding performance.
12/14/2023	
Submitted by: Kirsty Dixon	

Amanda Jabri	I nominate Amanda Jabri for her outstanding job performance throughout the duration of her employment. Amanda routinely manages difficult situations with respect, integrity and apparent ease (I do not know how she makes things look easy and effortless even when they are clearly not). She should be commended for her unwavering positive attitude, commitment to her duties, and the respect and compassion that she shows all individuals around her. Thank you.
12/14/2023	
Submitted by: Kirsty Dixon	

November

George Artis	George provided exceptional customer service and responsiveness by working tirelessly to ensure that my PC would run the file needed to complete a key business process. Throughout the entire process, George remained upbeat and patient as he worked to find a solution. Thank you, George, for going above and beyond.
11/21/2023	
Submitted by: Shanea Raj	
Ian McCoy	EMC was trying to purchase an app for our Social Media team's iPhone, and after looking into using a VCU P-Card for the purchase but being advised we couldn't leave a card on file within an iCloud account, I submitted a ticket to desktopit@vcu.edu asking for advice. Ian quickly replied, saying Tech Services could purchase the app through Apple School Manager, port the app over to EMC's iPhone then bill EMC using a JV in Banner. It was an efficient solution to what seemed to be a complicated request. Ian always goes above and beyond to provide EMC quick, exceptional service and we're thankful for him!
11/9/2023	
Submitted by: Eliza Robinson	
Barbara Payne	Barbara reached out to the Travel team with an encumbrance question. Due to her inquiry we discovered an issue that had been impacting the posting of Travel encumbrances for 2 months. It had gone undiscovered because Travel was receiving the daily Encumbrance Reports. However, only the liquidations were posting to Banner. As we worked to resolve the matter, Barbara was kind enough to work with us through this process, confirming the posting of data, etc. She was very understanding and her due diligence really helped us. We are now putting into place some type of notification method with IT support to prevent this from occurring again.
11/8/2023	
Submitted by: Modestine Carter	

Taryn Traylor	Taryn and I have been working closely on a project for the past few months and her initiative and responsiveness to the needs of our community partners is inspiring. Taryn knows her stuff and she is always ready with a helpful hand and creative ideas on how to best serve our education colleagues across Virginia. She physically took handouts to districts across Virginia over the past few weeks, chatting with partners, and spreading the word by utilizing and leveraging her robust network of colleagues. This type of hands-on and time consuming work is essential to the growth of our academic programs, and Taryn has gone above and beyond to support our academic programs. I have learned a great deal from Taryn and I look forward to continuing to collaborate and build more resources for special education teachers!
11/6/2023	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

October

Tanya Smith	Tanya always goes above and beyond to get the job done. I email her often and she is always helpful and responds quickly. I just wanted to take a moment to let her know she is appreciated.
10/31/2023	
Submitted by: Keyetta Tate	

Danny Habura	The new math exchange's projectors have had quite a bit of difficulty functioning to their full ability. Danny has been a truly amazing contact for assistance. As soon as there is an issue reported he responds, makes a physical visit to inspect the space. Treats all of the faculty and staff with kindness and patience. He is talented at explaining the issues, the next
10/31/2023	
Submitted by: Ellie Meyer	

	steps, and communicating timelines. The instructors of Math 151 feel a great sense of gratitude for such an effective and pleasant team member.
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Sanjur Brooks	At the early hour of 6:45 a.m., Sandy Brooks arrived for a meeting to talk about the VCU Human Research Protection Program Transformation with clinical chairpersons. After a brief kick-off and introduction, she demonstrated impressive value-driven leadership. Specifically, I would like to express my appreciation for how clearly Sandy conveyed a message of quality improvement as the goal, specifically in alignment with our values: COLLABORATION - Foster respect, collegiality, and cooperation to advance learning, entrepreneurship, and inquiry -- and this is how you really made a difference - being personally committed and available. SERVICE - Engage in the application of learning and discovery to improve the human condition and support the public good at home and abroad -- and you served well by empathizing and sharing your own impressions of timelines. INTEGRITY - Adhere to the highest standards of honesty, respect, and professional and scholarly ethics. Sometimes this means telling the truth, even when it isn't as planned. Change is hard. But leaning on our shared values and focusing on our commitment to serve game across to those in the meeting with the perfect mixture of boldness and grace. While you have a great team supporting this transformation, you are typically the one answering the hard questions. Thank you!
10/30/2023	
Submitted by: Lisa Ballance	

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Jamie Simmons	Jamie Simmons ALWAYS goes the extra mile. She is always 100% professional even when your own mistakes or mistakes made by your department make her job harder or more stressful. She never passes judgment or complains, she simply gets it done and regardless of business hours. She is always helpful and shares her knowledge. I appreciate Jamie so very very much.
10/27/2023	
Submitted by: Sania Marcoccia	

Sania Marcoccia	I'd like to convey my deep appreciation to Sania for her unwavering kindness, prompt responsiveness, and remarkable commitment to supporting her colleagues. Her exceptional assistance and guidance, most recently, in aiding my understanding of VCU's new travel booking process, have been indispensable. The work Sania does is truly remarkable!
10/25/2023	
Submitted by: Em Griffith	

Ziaire Prevard	Ziaire has been nothing less than professional in my interaction with him concerning the Elevated LLC. He is always punctual for meetings and last meeting remembered to set the room up for game night. He took all of the responsibility on himself and made the program a success. He is definitely one who can be depended on. His early success is made even more astounding by the fact that he is new to campus and is still becoming acclimated to the environment. He is a great representation of VCU housing. Kudos to him!
10/24/2023	
Submitted by: Isaiah Moore	

Amber Jackson	I'm so glad that Amber is a member of our department! She is our HR Coordinator and she works hard to make everyone -
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10/18/2023	potential and current employees alike - feel welcomed and heard. She is extremely responsive, and she won't stop working on a task until each person involved has a workable solution. She's been a huge part of ongoing recruitment in our department, and I know this goes a long way to making candidates feel comfortable during the whole process; she serves as a central contact for them and goes out of her way to make the process as smooth as possible. Thank you, Amber!
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

James Henderson	James was instrumental in implementing a solution for process improvement in my unit. He provided information on API integration, answered the many questions that I had, and was responsive to my needs. I appreciated his input and suggestions.
10/18/2023	
Submitted by: Rochelle Jordan	

Eric Doersch	Eric was instrumental in providing a solution for process improvement in my unit. He provided information, answered the many questions that I asked, and was quick to suggest alternatives to meet my needs. Eric is always willing to talk things through and assist me with implementing the best solution possible.
10/18/2023	
Submitted by: Rochelle Jordan	

Dorothy Walsh	Dottie supports CTL and the residents. Her commitment to the work, her ethics, and willingness to do whatever it takes to get the work done is exceptional. She is a team-player with all who come into contact with her. Her integrity provides a level of sureness to the CTL department. She is rapidly responsive in all that she does.
10/17/2023	
Submitted by: Carla Dannouf	

William Crehore	Will has been exceptionally helpful in assisting me with endpoint computing
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10/13/2023	needs. His guidance on MACs/JAMF has helped reduce my stress level for having to learn a new set of skills. His responsiveness and time extended to my requests are greatly appreciated especially knowing that he has an extremely busy workload.
Submitted by: Rochelle Jordan	

William Crehore	Will recently stepped into the role of macOS System Administrator at VCU, assuming a critical position that was previously held by a long-term veteran in the field. As is often the case with established IT roles, Will had substantial shoes to fill right from the start. Not long into his tenure, our campus experienced a significant outage affecting all Apple-managed devices. This disruption could have been catastrophic, but Will instantly took control of the situation. He collaborated diligently with various internal and external partners, navigating through complex challenges to restore stability to our Apple device environment. However, Will's commitment didn't stop at merely resolving the issue at hand. Instead, he delved deep into the underlying causes of the outage, asking the essential question: "Why did this happen?" Proactive and foresighted, Will is already devising strategic plans to forestall similar incidents in the future, safeguarding the campus from potential disruptions. Transitioning into a new role is invariably challenging, and many individuals might falter when faced with the immediate and daunting responsibilities that Will encountered. Yet, he not only met but surpassed expectations, demonstrating resilience and proactive communication every step of the way. While some organizations tend to minimize communication, Will ensured that the campus community remained informed and updated, sharing crucial
10/11/2023	
Submitted by: Travis Greene	

	information promptly as developments unfolded. Through his exemplary actions and steadfast commitment, Will has assured us all that he is not only the right fit for the role but is also a dependable asset to the VCU community. We can confidently look forward to more of his contributions, secure in the knowledge that our Apple device environment is in capable and caring hands.
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Serra De Arment	Serra is the picture you see when you look up "teamwork" and "collaboration". She is responsive and supportive of new ideas and making things happen to support student success. When I am trying to connect the dots and figure out a way to solve a complex problem, Serra is there with ideas, good questions and a positive perspective that helps see the opportunities in the challenges. We have a million moving parts in supporting a ton of new initiatives all at once in an environment where everything feels urgent and the top priority. I feel lucky to work with a responsive and thoughtful colleague like Serra.
10/3/2023	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

September

Patricia Shazer & Valerie Washington	Last week, EMC was made aware of three overdue vendor invoice payments. Although receipts had been created for these invoices in early August, due to a system error during import, the invoices were not properly matching in Realsource and payments were not issued. Monica Jackson suggested I reach out to Valerie Washington and Patricia Shazer for assistance. Valerie and Patricia both quickly jumped in, reviewing the PO,
9/29/2023	
Submitted by: Eliza Robinson	

	receipts and invoices, and made the updates needed to allow the payments to be processed and included in the next upcoming check run. I'm so grateful for their responsiveness and attention to detail which allowed EMC to reassure the vendor the overdue payments were now in process. A big thank you to them both!
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Cathleen Finnerty	Cathleen has been such a rockstar since Day 1 in my new role. She has been the most reliable and responsive point of contact for any form of support, help, or guidance and is incredibly kind and understanding in her communication with others. She frequently checks in to make sure I have all of the resources necessary to succeed in my role and is quick to respond to any inquiry with substantive, meaningful information. Not only is Cathleen a great HRA, she is a great role model for emotional intelligence in the workplace and deserves all of the recognition she can get. Thank you, Cathleen!
9/28/2023	
Submitted by: Brandon Seigel	

Nina Exner	I meant to do this several weeks ago, but this thank you is in reference to several things Nina has done over the past several months. This year, I have been the chair of the VCU Libraries Peer Review Committee and have aimed to improve the process for those who apply. While I talked to members of the committee, Nina has always made herself available to help me think through and understand the benefits and drawbacks of anything that the committee decided to do. Her counsel has been invaluable and something that I have really appreciated. Over the past several weeks, VCU Libraries has also had several candidates come to campus for interviews. As part of these interviews, the
9/28/2023	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

	candidates meet with a member of the VCU Libraries Peer Review Committee to gain an understanding of the promotion process. Because of some family emergencies and other circumstances, there were times when a member of the committee could not meet with a candidate. In those instances, Nina never hesitated to step in and fill in as a part member of the committee to meet with the candidate. I just wanted to thank Nina for being such a great colleague and helping out in a pinch. Thank You!
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Megan Holt-Smith	We had a student crying in the lobby of the CLC and Megan not only took the initiative to bring her to her office and help get her calmed down, but also build a genuine and caring relationship with the student. Over the course of an hour I listened to their interaction build from wanting to drop out of college to putting together an action plan for the German course that was giving the student anxiety. Megan did not HAVE to meet with the student, but she took it upon herself to be responsive to this student and their needs. She continues to go above and beyond with care and compassion.
9/25/2023	
Submitted by: Sara Rafuse	

Virginia Damron	Virginia joined the VCU Career Services team less than a month ago and has already had a positive impact on the lives of her colleagues and our students. With a number of staff members currently out on both planned and unplanned leave, we have put out a number of internal requests for support and Virginia has since stepped up to deliver a unique presentation, help staff a career fair, substitute teach in one of our career courses, represent our team on committees, and more. Virginia genuinely cares about her colleagues and
9/21/2023	
Submitted by: Samara Reynolds	

	the student experience, and when she becomes aware of an opportunity to fill a gap or make someone's load easier to carry, she raises her hand to volunteer. I have enjoyed working with Virginia as a colleague for a few years now (when she was in other departments at VCU), but having her on my team has been a true blessing during this busy season, and we are lucky to have her here. A heartfelt thank you to Virginia for her kind, positive, helpful approach to our work and for bringing her energy and experience to our team at VCS.
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Hayley Darwin	Hayley joined our team when we had been without procurement and finance help for several months. In the short time that she has been with us, she has brought all of our outstanding orders up to date and helped me clean up the department reconciliations. She is always pleasant to deal with and so many staff members have mentioned to me how glad they are to have her on board.
9/21/2023	
Submitted by: Erin Nocon	

Hillary Parkhouse	Over the last 3-4 weeks, Dr. Hillary Parkhouse has assumed chair level duties in the absence of the interim department chair. Working with her on time sensitive issues and complicated university requests may not not have been easier for her to balance. However, Hillary has been incredibly responsive, highly efficient, a great team player, and has done this without complaint. Her willingness to jump right in and be a great leader has been much appreciated. I am grateful to have her as my colleague in the School of Education! She is an incredible asset to VCU.
9/14/2023	
Submitted by: Tomika Ferguson	

Bob Young	Bob has been in our department for a year, and he is absolutely awesome to work with! He is a great leader for our administrative team, and he is extremely responsive to any of our questions, suggestions, etc. He is very encouraging of us all to work together to come up with solutions to any issues we may have. He has a really positive attitude, and that makes some of the tasks that seem insurmountable significantly easier to tackle. Thank you, Bob!
9/11/2023	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Polly Roberts	Our department has been working with Polly on a pilot newsletter project, and to say that she has been helpful is an absolute understatement! She is very organized, and she is helping me to stay organized and on-target as well, and she does all of this with patience, kindness, and expertise. Any time I've had questions, she has been ready to answer, either via email or by hopping on a Zoom call, and this project would not be possible without her guidance. She has a way of making things that seem intimidating much more doable, and I can't thank her enough for all of her help. I'm enjoying learning more about communications work as well, and she's been instrumental in that learning process. Thank you so much, Polly!
9/8/2023	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Kathryn Wright	Kathryn exemplifies premier customer service and responsiveness. Late on a Friday evening before a long weekend, Kathryn helped troubleshoot an urgent issue and all with a smile. She was pleasant to interact with and went above and beyond for our team. We are grateful for her assistance, partnership and expediency in this instance and on a regular basis.
9/1/2023	
Submitted by: Javeria Kazi	

August

Em Griffith	In Em's current role supporting the Dept. of Teaching and Learning , they have been instrumental in ensuring requests for late registration are processed in a timely fashion. This responsiveness ensures our students are not negatively impacted. Em is a consummate professional, always ready to learn new tasks and ask questions when clarification is needed. They are a wonderful teammate and colleague!
8/31/2023	
Submitted by: Sandra Mazzoli	

Jessica Watson	I would like to recognize Jessica Watson for her excellent work coordinating and leading VCU's International Student Orientation yesterday. She stepped up during a time of need and took initiative to plan a very complex, important event for new international students to the university. It was an incredible all-hands-on-deck team effort that went incredibly smoothly thanks to her hard work-- well done, Jessica!
8/17/2023	
Submitted by: Stephanie Tignor	

Cameron Delarosa	I am writing to share my sincere appreciation for the great work that Cameron Delarosa has done to create a welcome guide for international students living in WGN. Cameron identified a need among international students and visitors who reside in West Grace North to receive helpful information tailored to their unique needs upon arrival in the dormitory. He took initiative and in a month's time he coordinated with colleagues in OMSA and GEO to create a beautiful, thoughtfully designed booklet that was printed and distributed to the international students who are living in the building. I saw a copy of the guide today and was extremely
8/17/2023	
Submitted by: Stephanie Tignor	

	impressed with the end product as well as how Cameron worked collaboratively with colleagues in Student Affairs and GEO to bring his idea to life. He should be commended for taking this initiative, and working so quickly and collaboratively to see his idea come to fruition! We would love to take this idea campus-wide!
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Scott Stech	Scott regularly goes above and beyond in initiative, integrity, respect and responsiveness. Today was similar to many other days in my experience with Scott. He listened, reflected, and showed an endless amount of respect and dignity to me when sharing concerns and ideas. He has been an incredibly positive, proactive, and supportive sounding board and thought partner when managing an increasingly challenging recruitment market. He shares ideas, asks critical questions, and I trust that he drives positive change for SOE. I am thankful for him as a colleague and appreciate all that he brings to our school and me professionally. Thank you, Scott!
8/17/2023	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

Michael Lay	Mike has so much on his plate with our small but mighty communications team. Recently, we asked for his help in updating our website on a fairly tight timeline to accommodate some upcoming meetings that would be using information from our site. Mike worked tirelessly, above and beyond, to get it updated and responded to our tweaks very quickly. I know he had many other things to do, but I appreciate his responsiveness in helping us have our information up to date to serve our school.
8/1/2023	
Submitted by: Angie Wetzel	

Sherrie Dabney-Washington		Sherrie has consistently gone above and beyond her designated role, proactively seeking out opportunities to improve daily processes and maintain efficiency while assisting both VCU's IRB and IACUC offices. She has incredible ability to identify areas that require attention and then takes the lead in proposing and implementing innovative solutions that has had significant impacts on the OVPRI's productivity and success. Sherrie doesn't wait for instructions; she actively takes on various responsibilities for both departments and takes the initiative to tackle them head-on. Her willingness to take on additional responsibilities and support her colleagues without hesitation demonstrates her exceptional dedication and selflessness. Moreover, Sherrie has been a driving force behind several successful inspections and events, showcasing her leadership qualities and ability to adapt to novel situations. Her commitment to the continuous improvement of our department here at VCU and her eagerness to learn and grow make her a valuable asset to OVPRI and VCU as a whole.
8/1/2023		
Submitted by: Emily Olszewski		

July

Jennifer Tennison		Jennifer Tennison demonstrates initiative and motivation for learning and growth consistently in her role with the Office of Data Analytics. Jen took a leadership role in making the dashboards we use to display admissions, enrollment, and student success outcomes infinitely better. Jen identified challenges with our existing dashboards, in terms of display, end-user experience, and efficiencies. She researched and self-taught features and tools in SAS Visual Analytics to bring new
7/17/2023		
Submitted by: Angie Wetzel		

	layouts and designs to the dashboards. She also is working with our stakeholders to get feedback and continue to ensure the best design for their needs. All of her efforts resulted in much improved analytics from our office. I am excited to see how these better serve our faculty, staff, and leaders in planning and decision making.
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Cathleen Finnerty	I would like to recognize Cathleen Finnerty (and the entire the VPR HR team for that matter) who stepped up to the plate to assist us with our HR and staffing needs during a period in which our HR generalist position was vacant. Ms. Finnerty took on a large workload of multiple HR functions - ranging from start to finish staff recruitments, graduate student reappointments, affiliate faculty renewals, and other related tasks for our two busy research centers. Ms. Finnerty is always helpful, responsive, resourceful, and demonstrates that she is truly invested in the success of our department. I value her as a colleague and a new friend. I look forward to our continued association.
7/14/2023	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Fortune	

Katie Cappuccio	Katie wears multiple hats and supports our department in many ways as a financial specialist for the SEMSS Division and has been a joy to work with ever since VCU Career Services joined SEMSS. This particular recognition note is regarding how Katie helped our unit, along with Student Financial Services and VCU REAL, to successfully apply for a SCHEV grant this week focused on Transforming Federal Work-Study, which could bring \$100K to the University in support of student success and experiential learning. As we began drafting our grant proposal earlier this summer, Katie reached out to
7/12/2023	
Submitted by: Samara Reynolds	

	offer support and expertise in working with the Office of Sponsored Programs and the RAM Spot system to formally submit our proposal through the proper VCU channels and on to the funding agency. This was my first time serving as primary PI on a grant at VCU, so much of the process was new to me, but Katie provided insight, leadership, and thoughtful guidance, using her keen relationship building skills and attention to detail to make things easy on me and my fellow PI's, while ensuring that our grant proposal was submitted correctly and on-time so we could meet the SCHEV deadline this week. We couldn't have done it without her, and I am very grateful for her dedication to this project, setting us all up for success. I want to send a special thank you to Katie for all she does, but especially for the major part she played in VCU being able to submit our grant proposal for this important effort.
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Cheyenne Ferrell	This PCT always goes above and beyond for me even when they have other responsibilities to attend to. She does things without me even asking her to, and has been more helpful than any care partner I have ever worked with in my career with 3 different hospitals. She is about to graduate nursing school and she is going to make an absolute amazing nurse and this hospital is lucky to have her. Families and patients already love her and I know they are so lucky to have her!
7/5/2023	
Submitted by: Allissa Wolf	

Alaina Patterson	Alaina is an absolutely amazing nurse and I have worked with her multiple times and have noticed how great she is. The compassion she has for these patients and their families is amazing. She cares so much and I can tell how thoughtful she
7/5/2023	
Submitted by: Allissa Wolf	

	is in her care. Families and this hospital are so very lucky to have such a thoughtful and careful nurse!
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Sabrina Evans	Throughout the past year of working with Sabrina, I have learned a great deal about the challenges facing teachers in our highest needs schools. Her passion for community and the work of education is inspiring and it engages others in the work in a way they feel seen and heard. Sabrina has an incredible amount of integrity in all that she does. She leads with care, compassion and creativity and I am lucky to have the opportunity to work with her. Go Sabrina!
7/5/2023	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

June

Amber Paulus	Since joining the School of Nursing, Amber has taken consistent initiative across the university tripartite mission. While only one 'recognition characteristic' can be selected, Amber also consistently exhibits the others- integrity, respect and responsiveness. As PhD Program Director, I can say that Amber has without fail responds to every request sent to her- recruiting students, participating in PhD applicant interviews, sharing her expertise and experiences with PhD students during immersions as well as working to engage them in research, updating our courses in alignment with the AACN recommendations, and working with us to strengthen and streamline our On Campus Immersions. As a graduate of our program, she has valuable insights with regard to what works, what doesn't and she brings unique, inspired ideas and solutions to improve our program. Each of these activities serves to make our
6/29/2023	
Submitted by: Shelley Conroy	

	program the best it can be. I am most grateful to have Amber in our community.
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May

Talia Anderson	The School of Education has a number of Summer 2023 admissions submitted this week. Talia has been wonderful about uploading documents that were received after submission of said applications. I truly appreciate her responsiveness and professionalism while we work to get these students' admissions applications processed in a timely fashion.
5/16/2023	
Submitted by: Sandra Mazzoli	

Mariah Taghavie-Moghadam	Mariah and Em initiated the proposal for the reorganization of support staff roles within the School of Ed and put in a lot of work to coordinate efforts and make the presentation as good as it could be. I'm grateful for their leadership!
5/16/2023	
Submitted by: Maryanna Stufflebeem	

April

Candice Tam	Candice Tam is discerning, insightful and well-informed which is why I tend to lean on her with questions, ideas and perspectives. She is ALWAYS gracious with her time and consideration. She is a huge asset to VCU and GREATLY appreciated. Thanks for all that you do Candice!
4/11/2023	
Submitted by: Sania Marcoccia	

Lora Bailey	I am writing to recognize the contributions of Dr. Lora Bailey. She has made many contributions since joining the School of Education. There is so much to navigate
4/12/2023	

Submitted by: Kim McKnight	when it comes to licensure and accreditation and her leadership has supported the successful submission of apprenticeship grants, Surry RTR expansion, and all Masters of Teaching-Elementary Education program change documents, including the construction of all syllabi, matrices, and program rationale and narrative requirements. Your commitment to igniting student success through curricular innovation is evident in the quality of work that you have produced. Your efforts to transform the curriculum so that more students engage in inquiry and experiential learning to prepare them for the future of work are truly inspiring. Additionally, your focus on care and responsiveness is commendable. I would also like to acknowledge your dedication to retaining and attracting a diverse community of highly qualified educators that reflects a culture where everyone matters and belongs. Your commitment to ensuring that students have high quality teachers is essential for building a thriving community. Once again, thank you for your help and support. Your hard work and dedication are greatly appreciated.
Krista Scoggins	Krista Scoggins has been the most helpful and biggest support to DAR Veterinary Service program. She has been going above and beyond her duties since I've started in DAR to support all her colleagues as well as maintaining her own duties as the clinical veterinarian. She is innovative, encouraging, respectful, professional, and above all compassionate with both animals and humans. The animals at VCU and the staff would not have succeeded without her support and care. She is one of the amazing people that makes VCU a Great Place to Work.
4/11/2023	
Submitted by: Katherine Atran	

Jada Wright	Recently, a conflict came up that prevented me from attending and presenting at a scheduled meeting of our undergraduate recruitment team. It was a very last minute change to the planned agenda. Jada Wright jumped right in, with no hesitation, offering to stand in for me and present the prepared summary. I appreciated her willingness to pinch hit, her understanding of me, and her initiative to keep the momentum moving to ensure data review and use in our recruitment and admissions. THANK YOU JADA! I appreciate you so much!
4/26/2023	
Submitted by: Angie Wetzel	

Holly Monger	Holly Monger has been extremely integral in quick reaction and training new Health System members as well as quickly volunteering to come to fit testing events to help out when she can. She also stayed late to help out.
4/26/2023	
Submitted by: Elise Nicewick	

Suzanna Levey	Suzanna has gone above and beyond to assist her new team members with pre-award duties. Recently, there were a lot of NIH grant proposal submissions going in with dual deadlines which complicated the process. Not only did Suzanna schedule multiple meetings with her new team members to show them the process, she continued to check in with them to stay on top of the deadlines and guided them on what to do for the next steps. She also assisted when some of her team members had issues with the web based sponsor portal. Suzanna even took the initiative when a PI didn't route their proposal in enough time to meet the grants.gov deadline for her NIH proposal; Suzanna suggested to the PI to rework their proposal and submit to a similar grant
4/26/2023	
Submitted by: Felicia Harris	

	announcement. Suzanna's quick thinking averted a potential dire situation. Her hard work and expertise not only makes her an asset to the CHS-SPO team, but to CHS as a whole. Thank you, Suzanna, for all that you do!!! The team is extremely grateful to have you!!! Keep up the good work!
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March

Joshua Young	Joshua provided excellent IT support with VPN installation problems on my MacBook. Joshua has a relaxed and calm manner while he works. He systematically worked through various steps until he successfully resolved the issue. He's a great addition to Technology Services and deserves recognition.
3/1/2023	
Submitted by: Sonja M. Johnson-Blaziak	

Janet Taylor	I would like to recognize Janet Taylor for her great customer service. She answered the telephone call with a pleasant attitude, and provided knowledgeable and resourceful resources. Janet demonstrated active listening skills and took the time to resolve my issue in a timely manner. She is definitely an asset to your department.
3/1/2023	
Submitted by: Jacqueline C Glover	

Angie Wetzel	Angie is an unfailingly responsive, thorough, and detail-oriented colleague. She explains complex information to others in a clear and concise way, and always makes sure that she makes time to do so. She feels very passionately about making time for helping others understand data, and when they have questions, she does deep dives to get the answers (and often more). I rely on Angie to provide accurate, clear, and concise information
3/1/2023	
Submitted by: Kathleen Rudasill	

	about many of the data-related aspects of our school, and she consistently does so in a timely manner.
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Jamie Bittner	Jamie Bittner is incredibly organized, responsive, and detail-oriented. She figures out solutions to complex problems, organizes her time efficiently, checks in to provide updates, and always provides top notch results. Most recently, I asked Jamie to provide a comparison analysis of two long and complicated promotion and tenure documents. She needed very little guidance and completed the task, along with many other tasks on her plate, in a week.
3/3/2023	
Submitted by: Kathleen Rudasill	

Jenna Lenhardt	Jenna recently developed a new model to promote student participation in our incoming student surveys that we use in the School of Education to evaluate our admissions process and experience. Utilizing new software, she implemented a communications plan that promoted participation while offering education to our students on why we do surveys in the SOE to continuously improve our programs. Her work inspired us to try a similar approach for other surveys we do in an effort to ensure a robust and representative response. Jenna is a great colleague, always looking for ways to partner and innovate. I appreciate how she is always pushing us to new and better places.
3/3/2023	
Submitted by: Angie Wetzel	

Jennifer Cousins	Jennifer has taken on such incredible initiative in the School's time of transition and change. She has served multiple roles while onboarding, training, and supporting multiple departments with a colleague out for extended periods of time. With all of this responsibility, Jennifer is constantly
3/6/2023	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

	interested in learning, kind, and puts students first in all that she does. I look forward to opportunities to work with her and I hope she knows how much she is appreciated in the School. Sometimes it can be hard during the busy times of year to see one's impact, so I wanted to send a quick shout out to let Jennifer know that the work she does for students, faculty and our leadership makes a huge difference. Thank you!
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Danielle Cosby	Danielle has done an excellent job coordinating Holmes Scholar travel and has been very diligent in her submissions of pre-approvals and expense reports for our students. I can be confident that when Danielle is submitting a travel request, receipts, per diems, and folios are uploaded correctly and all travel policies are adhered to. Her attention to proper procedure is valued and much appreciated - Thank you Danielle!
3/8/2023	
Submitted by: Scott Stech	

Jenna Lenhardt	Jenna recently developed a new model to promote student participation in our incoming student surveys that we use in the School of Education to evaluate our admissions process and experience. Utilizing new software, she implemented a communications plan that promoted participation while offering education to our students on why we do surveys in the SOE to continuously improve our programs. Her work inspired us to try a similar approach for other surveys we do in an effort to ensure a robust and representative response. Jenna is a great colleague, always looking for ways to partner and innovate. I appreciate how she always pushing us to new and better places.
3/3/2023	
Submitted by: Angie Wetzel	

Jason Farrow	I am recognizing Officer Farrow for 10 years of dedicated service. Officer Farrow continues to be a leader within the ranks and he continues to provide excellent service to the VCU community.
3/9/2023	
Submitted by: Shola Kayode	
Laura Domalik	I would like to recognize Dr. Laura Domalik for 25 years of service to VCU! Congratulations and THANK YOU for your dedication to education!
3/13/2023	
Submitted by: Whitney Newcomb	
Misti Mueller	I would like to recognize Misti for 10 years of service and dedication to T&L and the field of education as a whole. Congratulations on this milestone! Thank you for all you do!
3/16/2023	
Submitted by: Whitney Newcomb	
Katherine Dabney	I would like to recognize Dr. Katherine Dabney for 10 years of service to T&L and to the field of education as a whole. Thank you, Katherine, for your dedication. Congratulations on this milestone!
3/13/2023	
Submitted by: Whitney Newcomb	
Jon Becker	I would like to recognize Dr. Jon Becker for 15 years of service to the university! Congratulations on achieving this milestone and thank you for your dedication and service to EDLP, VCU and the SOE!
3/13/2023	
Submitted by: Whitney Newcomb	
Jeff Wilson	I would like to recognize Dr. Jeff Wilson for five years of service to VCU!

3/13/2023	Congratulations on this milestone! Thank you for your dedication and service to EDLP, VCU, and the SOE!
Submitted by: Whitney Newcomb	

Charol Shakeshaft	I would like to thank Dr. Charol Shakeshaft for 15 years of service to VCU! Thank you for your dedication and service to EDLP, the SOE, and to VCU! Congratulations on this milestone!
3/13/2023	
Submitted by: Whitney Newcomb	

Tomika Ferguson	I'd like to recognize Dr. Tomika Ferguson for 5 years of service to the university. Thank you for your dedication and service to EDLP, the SOE, and to VCU! Congratulations on this milestone!
3/13/2023	
Submitted by: Whitney Newcomb	

David Clowser	In Mr. Clowser's role as the building manager for the VCU Research Engineering Building, he was my primary contact for a jointly held Metro Richmond Science and Engineering Fair on March 4, 2023. With 124 individual student projects, that included accompanying parents, and 65 volunteers and judges, the effort took considerable planning with David and execution for the set-up of the collaboration hub, the judges lounge (off the hub floor), the command center (classroom off the atrium), and the foyer in Snead that served as our registration area and drop off. David was there and voluntarily assisted in helping break down the stored 8 foot wooden tables (which was such a blessing at 6:30 pm on Saturday night!). I was exhausted and when he saw my wife and I moving them, he stepped right in without being asked. He made himself available via his cell
3/14/2023	
Submitted by: Al Byers	

	phone for any issue that arose, such as access to the classroom schedule when there was a mix-up in when we could use the room. I cannot say enough about the quality of his pleasant demeanor, his professionalism, and helpfulness. The VCU College of Engineering should consider itself fortunate to have an employee of David's leadership and caliber in their employ. It is with my utmost pleasure that I'd like to recognize Mr. David Clowser for his service to the university and our regional science and engineering fair effort.
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Jenna Lenhardt	Jenna is celebrating 5 years working in the School of Education. We benefit tremendously from her strategic planning, passion for students and her work, her collaborative nature, and ability to tackle adaptive challenges. Thank you for all that you do and for your commitment to excellence!
3/17/2023	
Submitted by: Tomika Ferguson	

Maryanna Stufflebeem	Maryanna is a newer employee. She has been here less than a year, I believe. Not only is she a quick study, she is amazingly responsive, thorough and all around delightful. I am so happy she has joined the VCU School of Education team. Keep up the amazing work you do Maryanna! Thank you!
3/16/2023	
Submitted by: Sania Marcoccia	

Sherrie Dabney-Washington	Sherrie arrived early to ensure that everything was in place for our site visitors, reviewed the progress of the day, and invited discussion about learning more about program operations under research subjects protection. She is a person of integrity, always pitching in, and easily adapts to new processes and new situations. Thank you, Sherrie!
3/20/2023	
Submitted by: Lisa Ballance	

Jennifer Cousins	Jennifer has been an invaluable resource as a new employee. She's quick to respond to requests for support and has reached out multiple times to make sure I'm feeling comfortable in my new role. I'm very grateful for her help and guidance!
3/21/2023	
Submitted by: Maryanna Stufflebeem	

Procurement Services	I could send a recognition form almost each and every day for the work of Procurement Services. From administrative support, purchasing, accounts payable, card services, travel/reimbursements to vendor and contracts management, EVERY encounter that I have with this team is beyond reproach. Supporting the University is a herculean task which is met by each individual in Procurement Services with respect, patience and support. Thank you ALL for working to ensure the cogs of our collective machine are well oiled and running at capacity. My sincere gratitude and appreciation to each and every one in Procurement Services.
3/20/2023	
Submitted by: Sania Marcoccia	

Charles Johnson	Charles has been a youth advocate for may years. In the summer of 2022, the program for the safety and protection of minors transitioned to Equity and Access Services (EAS). Charles has since shown grit and dedication by working diligently in both spaces. This year, Charles has really risen to the challenge and advanced his vision for youth programing both in terms of the opportunities with the Mary and Frances Youth Center and compliance for the protection of all youth who will come into our VCU community for different activities, programs and services. Thank you for your 5 years of service and continuing hard work! Your work has significance and I am excited that you are part of our EAS team!
3/22/2023	
Submitted by: Cleopatra Magwaro	

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Eddie Smith	With sincere gratitude, I'd like to recognize Eddie Smith for always being helpful. I've contacted Eddie on many occasions for assistance with our ECC data files, and he has ALWAYS responded and is willing to help. I appreciate his commitment to helping our team! Thank you, Eddie!
3/24/2023	
Submitted by: Shanea Raj	

Talicia Tarver	Last week, I had a scheduling issue that did not allow me to teach a webinar. Even though she was not my backup for the webinar when I approached Talicia, she did not hesitate to help me and lead the webinar in my absence. I just wanted to recognize and thank Talicia for helping me out on short notice. She is a great colleague who can be depended on to help fill in when needed. Thanks again...
3/28/2023	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

February

Joshua Young	Joshua provided excellent IT support with VPN installation problems on my MacBook. Joshua has a relaxed and calm manner while he works. He systematically worked through various steps until he successfully resolved the issue. He's a great addition to Technology Services and deserves recognition.
2/1/2023	
Submitted by: Sonja M. Johnson-Blaziak	

Samantha Hope	Sam and I have been working together almost daily for the last year on new, innovative, and operational items that many would have gotten overwhelmed with. Sam is responsive and works with the highest integrity and initiative. She solves problems not just for the specific issue that may have come up, but thinks
2/6/2023	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

	about sustainable changes that can support student success beyond the individual situation. She is an incredible thought partner and colleague who I go to when I hit a snag or need ideas on how to move forward. I am incredibly grateful to have the opportunity to work with Sam and collaborate on programs that make a difference for our community.
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Patrick Shi	I would like to recognize the excellent work of Patrick Shipy. Patrick (aka Shipy) has and continues to play a key role in developing the pathway to evaluate the feasibility of clinical trials conducted within VCU Health and, in turn, raise the quality of clinical research conducted at VCU and VCU Health. His work is also contributing significantly to instilling efficiencies to the clinical research start-up process and overall compliance of clinical research. He possesses a wealth of knowledge about Redcap and programming, that background work that most people don't see but is vital for our everyday work, and freely shares it with anyone who asks. He is a pleasure to work with and we could not do what we do without him. Thank you Shipy!
2/10/2023	
Submitted by: Dr. Mary Harmon	

Molly Case	Molly took over the lead for the Building Manager Awards processes. This is no easy feat and takes a lot of time and attention to detail. I continue to believe this process means a lot and is essential to recognize our Building Managers who keep our campus up and running in so many ways. She even did it with a positive outlook, so I wanted to briefly recognize her too.
2/16/2023	
Submitted by: Shana Ryman	

Scott Stech	Scott demonstrated a high level of responsiveness to the ideas generated in the Town Hall.
2/26/2023	
Submitted by: Lane Prentice	

January

Felicia Harris	Over the winter break, our primary federal sponsor submitted a request for documentation with a nearly impossible deadline. Ms. Harris was able to actively manage the JIT process in an organized and effective manner, working work effectively with Office of Sponsored Programs Special Teams, SOM Research Administration and all the named key faculty participants throughout the process, all while keeping the Principal Investigator and me fully informed. With her help and unwavering commitment, we were able to make that deadline, which will hopefully secure the next stage of grant funding for our Center.
1/2/2023	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Fortune	

Diane Bowman	Diane sets the example for responsive and respectful administration, especially at the beginning and end of each semester. Her patience with multiple demands for course registration is unparalleled and I am so grateful and privileged to work with her. When I commit an oversight with course registration, she helps fix the issue in a timely manner. Ultimately, her acumen helps me deliver the best possible course content for our learners, enriching their learning experience. Diane deserves to be recognized for her hard work.
1/10/2023	
Submitted by: Chuck Alexander	

Andy Kollmer	I reached out to Andy for guidance on the purchase and set up of an Apple computer
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1/10/2023	for a faculty member transitioning from his unit (school of Business) to mine (Graduate School). Dealing with Apple computers was new to me and Andy went above and beyond to walk me through the basics. He provided product information and specifications so that I could recreate a similar computer set up for our interim dean. Andy's responsiveness and thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated and helped me navigate an area that I was unfamiliar with.
Submitted by: Rochelle Jordan	

Sonja Johnson-Blaziak	I reached out to Andy for guidance on the purchase and set up of an Apple computer for a faculty member transitioning from his unit (school of Business) to mine (Graduate School). Dealing with Apple computers was new to me and Andy went above and beyond to walk me through the basics. He provided product information and specifications so that I could recreate a similar computer set up for our interim dean. Andy's responsiveness and thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated and helped me navigate an area that I was unfamiliar with.
1/13/2023	
Submitted by: Chuck Alexander	

Evan French	Evan has taken over providing data analyses of the All-Payer Claims Database for researchers at VCU. We have long had a backlog of requests and not been able to provide the data needed in a timely manner to research. Evan has done an amazing job of learning to do APCD queries. He is amazingly responsive and able to deliver accurate and complete data in a timely manner that is super responsive to requests. Evan is leading and coordinating others in doing this work. He is an invaluable team member and resource for the Wright Center, VCU, and our broad public health
1/14/2023	
Submitted by: Alex Krist	

	efforts. His work is making a difference and helping many people.
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Alex Krist	For the past three years, Gaby has led a statewide initiative to provide primary care practices facilitation and support for screening and counseling for unhealthy alcohol use. This study started with the pandemic, which made this a tremendously difficult task. Gaby successfully recruited 60% to 300% more practices than the other 5 national grantees also funded to do this work. We just submitted a paper to JCATS on how the recruitment strategy we used created an equitable and inclusive study population and highlighted how innovative our approach and methodology was. These successes are due to Gaby's hard work, responsiveness, and persistence. She is a critical team member and we could not do the work we do without Gaby.
1/16/2023	
Submitted by: Gaby Villalobos	

Felicia Harris	Felicia, my current supervisor, has taken a new position within another department at VCU. In her last couple weeks with us, she has worked diligently to make sure her team is left with all knowledge necessary to fill in the gaps once she is gone. This includes working overtime, after hours, to put together a list of duties for us all moving forward so we know exactly what will be expected. Felicia has been meeting with us, almost daily, to teach us what we need to know and to make sure we are comfortable with the additions to our current job duties. Not only has she been meeting with us one on one, but she has taken us under her wings to other meetings so we can get a glimpse of how things will work when she is gone. Felicia has left no stone unturned in getting us prepared. She has gone above
1/25/2023	
Submitted by: Amanda Kain	

	and beyond to make sure we feel valued, even as she prepares to take on a bigger role herself. Personally, I would not be where I am today without Felicia's guidance and persistence in getting the best out of me.
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Caimdyn Stewart	I would like to recognize Caimdyn Stewart for being an incredible colleague in the School of Education. Caimdyn is not only knowledgeable when it comes to advising, but is also patient. She takes time to listen and support our students, as well as our team. She is always solution-focused and will take time to explain so we understand. I appreciate Caimdyn for the incredible work she has done and continues to do for our students and for our team.
1/26/2023	
Submitted by: Donte Sharpe	

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1/26/2023	
Submitted by: Donte Sharpe	

Sandra Mazzoli	I would like to recognize Sandra for being incredible and for her supporting our graduate students in the School of Education. Sandra not only has taken the time to answer any questions I may have regarding graduate student processes, but also help to walk me through those processes. I am fortunate to call Sandra a colleague and want to thank her for all of her help.
1/26/2023	
Submitted by: Donte Sharpe	

Tré Straughter	I would like to recognize Tré Straughter for being an incredible person who is a true advocate for our students. I have had the honor of working alongside Tré for years in the Student Commons. He has always been not only supportive of the work I did with student organizations, but has always been and continues to be a listening ear for our students and others. Tré makes every role better and brings creativity to any team that is fortunate to have him as a part of. Tré, thank you for your continued contributions to student success.
1/26/2023	
Submitted by: Donte Sharpe	

Diane Bowman	Diane continually provides excellent support to the School of Pharmacy - Admissions Office. I rely on her every semester to facilitate and troubleshoot PharmD student record issues; in addition to partnering with me to make sure our students are registered each semester. I know when I send a request to Diane, it will be handled in a timely and efficient manner. She is an asset to the VCU Community and in particular Records & Registration. Her overall value to the Division of Strategic Enrollment Management and Student Success is immeasurable.
1/27/2023	
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	experience. Sonja deserves to be recognized for her hard work in service to our learners.
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Evan French	Evan has taken over providing data analyses of the All-Payer Claims Database for researchers at VCU. We have long had a backlog of requests and not been able to provide the data needed in a timely manner to research. Evan has done an amazing job of learning to do APCD queries. He is amazingly responsive and able to deliver accurate and complete data in a timely manner that is super responsive to requests. Evan is leading and coordinating others in doing this work. He is an invaluable team member and resource for the Wright Center, VCU, and our broad public health efforts. His work is making a difference and helping many people.
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1/26/2023	
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Sandra Mazzoli	I would like to recognize Sandra for being incredible and for her supporting our graduate students in the School of Education. Sandra not only has taken the
1/26/2023	

Submitted by: Donte Sharpe		time to answer any questions I may have regarding graduate student processes, but also help to walk me through those processes. I am fortunate to call Sandra a colleague and want to thank her for all of her help.
Tré Straughter		I would like to recognize Tré Straughter for being an incredible person who is a true advocate for our students. I have had the honor of working alongside Tré for years in the Student Commons. He has always been not only supportive of the work I did with student organizations, but has always been and continues to be a listening ear for our students and others. Tré makes every role better and brings creativity to any team that is fortunate to have him as a part of. Tré, thank you for your continued contributions to student success.
1/26/2023		
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1/27/2023		
Submitted by: Sonja M. Johnson-Blaziak		

2022**December**

Jerry Ware	I have a large surplus and move that I was hoping to get completed prior to Winter Break. Jerry met me for an initial walk-down this morning. After seeing the complexity of the job, he made a phone call and within a few minutes he had a contractor on-site to look at the job and get me put on their schedule. What would have taken me days to coordinate, Jerry was able to make happen in under an hour. I respect his knowledge and the relationships he has built at VCU, and as always, appreciate his help!
12/5/2022	
Submitted by: Bob Burgess	

Scott Stech	Scott has been a tireless partner in supporting initiatives that support recruitment, even in challenging financial times. He brings his finance and human resources expertise to the table to solve operational issues. He is empathetic and a great listener when trying to work through a challenge. One of many examples is his willingness to think outside the box when we started hiring new FWS students (we hired over 38 this fall!), and pulled in his staff and helped create a process that worked for everyone- with the student's experience at the center of the discussion. In the past this process would take over two months to finalize, and with Scott's leadership and support, all students were hired within a week of when their paperwork was received, if not sooner. I appreciate his initiative, respect and support of colleagues. He is an incredible resource and SOE is lucky to have him.
12/5/2022	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

Erica Boisseau Bratton	Scott has been a tireless partner in supporting initiatives that support recruitment, even in challenging financial times. He brings his finance and human resources expertise to the table to solve operational issues. He is empathetic and a great listener when trying to work through a challenge. One of many examples is his willingness to think outside the box when we started hiring new FWS students (we hired over 38 this fall!), and pulled in his staff and helped create a process that worked for everyone- with the student's experience at the center of the discussion. In the past this process would take over two months to finalize, and with Scott's leadership and support, all students were hired within a week of when their paperwork was received, if not sooner. I appreciate his initiative, respect and support of colleagues. He is an incredible resource and SOE is lucky to have him.
12/5/2022	
Submitted by: Danielle Cadua	

Eric Higgs-Page	Eric did a great job transporting the patient to Gumenick Suites to MRI. The patient let Eric know that she had muscle spasms and was sensitive to bumps during transport. Eric took extra caution when going through the halls and communicated to the patient that there may be bumps coming up during transport.
12/13/2022	
Submitted by: Danielle Cadua	

Jacqueline Roark	Respect and Responsiveness - Jacqueline took my call today on the Banner helpdesk. She was so polite, and patient with me. I was touched by her empathy, as I'm new to VCU and learning the Banner language. She took the time to explain to me several fields in Banner Production, and answered all of my questions. Her calmness, poise, and equanimity in the face of my many questions, caused me to feel special, that she had time to dedicate
12/14/2022	
Submitted by: Karen Sharrock	

	to my learning (even though I'm sure she had other callers in queue). I truly felt valued, as if I was her only priority at that point in time. This is admirable, and something I seek to emulate.
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Maureen Olmsted	I just had the most wonderful interaction with Maureen. I was dealing with issues related to clinicaltrials.gov with my previous job. I was extremely anxious and did not know where to even start dealing with the problem. Mareen answered my email last night immediately and we had a Zoom call today. She explained in detail the process, she will help me deal with my previous job and how to resolve the issues. Thank you so much for having such a great employee. She was fantastic!!!!
12/16/2022	
Submitted by: Debbie DiazGranados	

James Dye	Working as the university-wide Talent@VCU administrator, James Dye provides ongoing excellent service to a variety of stakeholders. In the weeks leading up to the December 1st VCU staff bonus, he had to develop a way to ensure all staff eligible would receive their payment. This involved tracking down staff and managers without annual goals in the Talent system and resolving this barrier to maximize eligibility for VCU staff. His innovative work to always get things right helped not only HR, but in this case his work supported all VCU staff in receiving their well-deserved bonus prior to the holiday season.
12/16/2022	
Submitted by: Robert Houghtaling	

November

Erica Brody	Erica is a great colleague who is always willing to pitch in when needed. I want to thank her for her willingness over the last
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11/4/2022	couple of weeks to provide her feedback and volunteer her time to provide feedback and insight to the RED intern. Her thoughts helped to improve his instructional approach and, in turn, the webinar he was about to teach. I value Erica as a colleague and hope to be able to return the favor at some point.
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

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12/16/2022	
Submitted by: Robert Houghtaling	

November

Tyrone Jones	Congratulations on your first 60 days, you have shown great progress and are willing to learn more in order to further your career while working at RecWell.
11/10/2022	
Submitted by: Delroy Marston	

Alexis Bussey	Congratulations on your first 30 days as RecWell Housekeeper, your contribution plays a critical part of the daily operations in providing a positive attitude in all interactions with patrons.
11/10/2022	

Submitted by: Delroy Marston	
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October

Lacey Seaton	Lacey is overseeing five different programs, and she is coordinating between content experts and organizing a complex program, sharing updates, being proactive and thoughtful in her support of students. The different audiences in her five programs is incredibly complex, yet Lacey is positive, and is open to ideas and suggestions on how to support student success. I appreciate her partnership, willingness to partner, and responsiveness to questions even when she has a number of competing priorities. It is a joy to work with Lacey.
10/3/2022	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

Corey Martin	Whenever I ask for help or advice Corey is always available and willing to make time for me. He is such a incredible person and asset in our department. So grateful for him!
10/13/2022	
Submitted by: Caroline Cobb	

Amanda Kain	Amanda is strong asset to IDAS' Business Office Team. She has been instrumental in resolving many procurement issues that come up in our department. She takes the initiative following up on many situations before conflicts arise. In particular, Amanda followed up on a contract with two outstanding requisitions because of an upcoming deadline. Amanda has also been heavily instrumental in sorting out our department's VCU Health System invoices so that valid, correct invoices are paid. Amanda is a true self starter, strong communicator and leader. She is highly dependable and is comfortable stepping
10/13/2022	
Submitted by: Felicia Harris	

	up and leading when I'm out of the office. She is extremely pleasant to work with and I'm confident her colleagues feel the same way. Keep up the great work, Amanda!! Thanks for all that you do!!!
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Matthew Martin	As part of the Banner Cloud Migration project, a 3rd-party integration vendor (AdAstra) set up a site for end user testing. Technical work was necessary on VCU's end to ensure that SSO worked properly with that new test site. I reached out to Matt Martin, who helped me to troubleshoot, helped to provide further information that was needed for the AdAstra representative, and ultimately got SSO working with the new AdAstra test site. He was quick to get this completed, which allowed end users to begin testing the site within 24 hours of my first contact with Matt.
10/13/2022	
Submitted by: Greg Eskridge	

Wes Seals	I am sending a special thanks to Wes Seals for guiding me in my new position at VCU. I am very thankful and grateful for the guidance throughout this amazing process.
10/18/2022	
Submitted by: Desiree Dabney	

Leslie Bobb	Our admin group recently took over an on-going project, Virginia Opioid Addiction ECHO, a virtual network of health care experts and providers tackling the opioid crisis across Virginia. This required our team, led by Leslie Bobb, to learn the processes and technologies involved in successfully managing the ECHO program while ensuring the continuity of operations. We held our first ECHO session of the new grant year today (10/21/2022), which was moderated by Ms. Bobb. By all accounts, she did an excellent job of
10/21/2022	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Fortune	

	getting up to speed on program needs, organizing the agenda and calendar for the rest of 2022, working with the key stakeholders in advance of today's session - all of which resulted in a successful ECHO session.
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Lillie Lattimore	Our admin group recently took over an on-going project, Virginia Opioid Addiction ECHO, a virtual network of health care experts and providers tackling the opioid crisis across Virginia. This required our team, of which Lillie Lattimore played a key role, to learn the processes and technologies involved in successfully managing the ECHO program while ensuring the continuity of operations. We held our first ECHO session of the new grant year today (10/21/2022). Because of her behind the scenes work, particularly with communications and continuing education, our first ECHO session was a great success. I am grateful to have Ms. Lattimore as part of team!
10/21/2022	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Fortune	

Justina Winston	Justina went above and beyond in her onboarding with our two new housekeeping staff and that's why I want to recognize her continued effort in helping our staff.
10/28/2022	
Submitted by: Delroy Marston	

September

Ayana Clayton-Brooks	Since Ayana has been with IDAS, she has been a joy to work with. She stays on top of her workload and has developed her own system with keeping the petty cash balanced daily and replenished in a timely manner. She thoroughly assists the research teams in our department,
9/1/2022	
Submitted by: Felicia Harris	

	ensuring retention of research study participants. Ayana has no problem asking questions and lets me know as soon as possible if anything is out of sync, resolving issues BEFORE they become bigger problems. She is a strong team player and is a true asset to the IDAS Business Office Team. I appreciate you, Ayana!
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Joey Noble	I do not want to imagine trying to work at VCU without Joey Noble as part of the team. He is a selfless team member who consistently goes above and beyond to ensure that everyone--faculty, staff, and students--receives exceptional technology support. He has worked tirelessly to connect new students with essential software and hardware as well as facilitating the return to in-person work. Yesterday morning alone, I saw him go from troubleshooting a software issue to providing training on using conference equipment to reconfiguring multiple laptops and cataloguing hardware needs and upcoming software updates. Joey is not only responsive, but also proactive. Everyone at VIPBG has benefited from his willingness to take initiative. For example, I needed to connect my new laptop to the institute printers. When I went to the VIPBG IT wiki, I saw that Joey had revamped the help pages to contain the most recent information so that anyone needing to connect to the printers had the best experience possible.
9/1/2022	
Submitted by: Dana Lapato	

Aimée Walters	Aimée's work on recent noncredit events has been indefatigable. With very short lead times, she worked tirelessly to create a very extensive multi-level conference website and related resources. Although
9/9/2022	

Submitted by: Edward Howard		she always goes the extra mile, these past few engagements were particularly demanding (in complexity, timing) and she rose to the challenge with positivity, leadership and exceptional detail. She worked very late on many evenings and weekends to get this done. I can speak for myself and VCU Online and Continuing and Professional Education to say, we appreciate you very much Aimée!
Travis Greene		Travis helped me quickly solve an issue with an MECM task sequence I was having trouble with. His PowerShell script was easily adaptable to my situation and pretty much instantly solved my issues. This was while he was already dealing with a major MECM issue and helping the Endpoint Computing team troubleshoot task sequence issues that were impacting all of VCU. Truthfully, I owe him many more of these recognitions for the many times he has helped me personally with MECM related issues. He is truly an asset to VCU! Thank you Travis for all of your amazing work (and your immense PowerShell expertise)!
9/15/2022		
Submitted by: Houston Griffith		
Matthew Chatham		Officer Chatham, while working to handle a potential threat outside of the VCU Health ER, due to gunshot victim arriving, assisted me while I was trying to navigate parking after my partner had just been involved in a bad car accident and arrived by ambulance. I was in a bit of a panic. He assisted by getting some sort of "pass" to allow my car to remain parked where it was so I could get into the ER and see my partner, after I had moved it multiple times only to have the Passport app tell me the spot was not available. He was very busy, yet remained calm, his demeanor helped me stay calm, and his assistance allowed
8/2/2022		
Submitted by: Curtis Diesselhorst		

	me to get to my family quickly. This really meant a very lot to me at that moment, and he should be recognized for his dedicated service. I too am a VCU employee, and he exemplifies the customer service and community support that we all should strive to provide and be. I'm very grateful that he is part of our team here at VCU.
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Brandon Burneson	I wanted to take a moment to recognize and thank Brandon for his contribution to the Research and Education Department of the Health Sciences Library. Over the last several weeks, as he has been preparing to transition to leave VCU, he has taken the time to ensure that all his projects are in a good place. This extra effort is particularly true regarding the work he has been doing with the intern in our department. I know this has been an additional task that he has taken on, and I want to recognize the exceptional effort he has undertaken to ensure the intern's annual report project is successful. This effort on his part is just indicative of all the great work he has done while a member of VCU Libraries. So again, thank you, Brandon, for your responsiveness when asked, not just in the last couple of weeks, but any time I have called upon you. You will be missed when you leave, and thanks for everything.
8/10/2022	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

Scott Stech	Scott Stech is unbelievably responsive to the many requests he gets from folks across the SOE, especially related to HR where he has been working without a full staff for months. Yet he maintains a positive, kind, and patient demeanor when juggling multiple demands. I am so grateful to have Scott on the SOE team! I want him to know how much he is valued.
8/19/2022	
Submitted by: Kathleen Rudasill	

Sanjur (Sandy) Brooks	Dr. Brooks (Sandy) has had many legacy issues to uncover and address since joining VCU in the midst of the pandemic last year. She has been fair, thoughtful, and working under highly unusual circumstances and during already stressful times. Nevertheless, is always eager to share background information to teach and guide. Sandy's professionalism and character shine through the business of the day!
8/22/2022	
Submitted by: Lisa Ballance	
Julie Norman	Julie's timely response for a late Fall 2022 admissions decision has greatly helped our new student. This student needs the coursework and ultimately the degree to maintain employment. Thank Julie for all you do!
8/23/2022	
Submitted by: Sandra Mazzoli	
Rani Sisavath	Rani took over the management of the humanitiescenter.vcu.edu website this year and has done fabulously in this role. This is an especially difficult site to manage - probably the hardest in CHS - because of the way some of the elements are engineered. Frankly I have been shocked by how quickly Rani has figured out its complexities and gone off and running with its management. She has an especially well-developed analytical sense along with keen attention to detail and a good eye for layout and design. If she were so inclined and keeps building her skills in this domain, she could definitely make a wonderful web developer one day. Keep up the great work, Rani!
8/26/2022	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	
Kevin Kim	I am recognizing Kevin Kim for being an awesome grant accountant. He is always responsive and extremely thorough. Any questions that I have regarding the grants in my department are quickly answered
8/30/2022	

Submitted by: Felicia Harris	and if Kevin doesn't happen to know the answer, he has no issue finding out. My interactions with Kevin are always pleasant and he is always willing and ready to help. He is an excellent team player and is truly an asset in the G&C department. I'm taking this time to recognize his hard work. I appreciate you, Kevin!
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July

Kathy Thomas	Not just today, but every day - Kathy is such an incredible asset to the health system! She is incredibly responsive to scheduling requests of all types, and she manages calendars for people with complex schedules. Additionally, she is really helpful as a resource for so many different admin tasks; I suspect lots of people ask her advice when they have an admin problem to solve - I know I have! Thank you, Kathy, for being an awesome colleague!
7/8/2022	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Karen Lamb	I'd like to recognize Karen for how helpful and responsive she is. On countless occasions I've reached out to her with a complex question and she's gotten me what I need, and then some, within the same day. I admire her willingness to help and commitment to helping VCU succeed. Thank you Karen!
7/13/2022	
Submitted by: Camilo Medina	

Cecilia Scott	The launch of a new website is a fraught time for a webmaster. Of the many things that can go wrong, though, it is such a relief to know that the biggest part - getting the development site transitioned to a live site with its many associated tasks - will always go right when Cecilia is steering the ship. Her attention to detail is
7/26/2022	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	

	impeccable and she conducts all the tasks flawlessly. Further, I always appreciate that she reaches out directly to me to let me know as it's happening and to provide direct contact and support during the transition. This is very reassuring and helpful to me and demonstrates her commitment to service excellence. VCU is fortunate to have such a caring, thorough, and attentive steward of its CMS. Thank you, Cecilia!
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Erica Brody	Over the last several weeks, Erica has taken extra steps to help me to provide a meaningful experience for the intern in the research and education department. This effort was not something she had to do but wanted to do. It was a huge help as I have been out of the office and had other things going on that did not allow me to focus on the internship experience as I wanted. I just wanted to thank her for her responsiveness and willingness to assist in helping the intern learn what is needed to be an effective future medical librarian. I value Erica as a colleague and look forward to returning the favor when she needs my help.
7/27/2022	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

Modestine Carter	I needed help figuring out why a flight charge did not hit our index. Modestine investigated it, explained what happened and gave detailed instructions on how to fix the problem so it would not happen again. I appreciate her fast help during this busy time.
7/27/2022	
Submitted by: Andrea Groat	

June

Krista McDonald	I'm recognizing Krista for her poised and professional attitude during a petty cash review meeting with an internal auditor
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6/22/2022	today. She handled herself very well, explaining the department's procedures and answering all questions accurately. I truly appreciate her example of integrity which is displayed on a daily basis. Keep up the good work, Krista!
Submitted by: Felicia Harris	

Emma King, M.Ed.	I am the program coordinator for the Post-Bac Certificate in Clinical Research sponsored by the Office of Research and managed via the Wright Center CTR. The program launched in Fall 2020 and our first students completed May 2022. Being new to my role and managing a new program there has been much learned along the way. Use of DegreeWorks, the degree audit process, submitting waivers and exceptions and monitoring student progression toward program completion and graduation procedures are all new. I reached out several times via email to Degree Audit group but realized I needed for one on one support. Emma has provided exceptional customer service and expertise via email communication and a scheduled one on one meeting. She was friendly, supportive and extremely knowledgeable. She met with me for over an hour on Friday, June 17. Here follow-up was immediate and specific on outstanding items. We covered a great deal of information. She addressed all my questions and made important connections for me along the way. I now have an understanding of the role of the office and a specific contact if needed in the future. Emma was and continues to be immensely helpful as I work through prep and audit of our first students graduating. Exceptional customer service!
6/17/2022	
Submitted by: Catherine Brown	

Ryan Pander	Ryan was able to quickly rectify my huge reservation mistake. I enjoy working with such a true professional!
6/28/2022	
Submitted by: Pamela Hendrix	

May

Amber Peranski	Amanda reached out to me to ensure I am set up for BEST practices with records management as I continue to develop our VCU Remote Workers Community of Practice. Furthermore, she organized a meeting for us, shared resources, and offered to present at a future meeting. I feel supported with a colleague like Amanda to do my best work within compliance and wanted to take a moment to recognize her.
5/4/2022	
Submitted by: Shana Ryman	

Mark Ryan	While this example is from today specifically, it is applicable to every day working with Dr. Ryan! He anticipates potential questions/issues that may arise when we set up complicated meetings, and he is extremely patient and helpful with the ever-present scheduling challenges. He makes it easier to find solutions to difficult problems, and he does that with grace, humor, and understanding. Believe me, it is appreciated by many people, and we are so glad to be his colleagues!
5/4/2022	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Katie McColgan	Katie has helped our central School of Education HR team as we have been down a team member. She has been responsive, kind, has followed-up, and has gone above and beyond to support the hiring and HR needs of our large Enrollment Management student team.
5/4/2022	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

	She brings a process and human focused lens to the work, and communicates incredibly well. She is detailed and also understanding and helps explain complex processes or needs of hiring someone. Where a hire used to take 6-8 weeks, Katie has shortened that process to two weeks. Katie has been helping out for a while, and this is well beyond the call of duty. I have been thankful for her support and responsiveness and cannot thank her and the RRTC team, who allowed us to borrow some of Katie's time for so long. She should get a million gold stars and a huge kudos for all she has done for our School.
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Madrenna Horn	I have had several interactions with Madrenna Horn and each time I walk away feeling grateful for her assistance. Her response time is awesome and she always gives clear instructions on how to proceed. I feel confident knowing that if I have questions or need assistance she is here to help. A lot of times we only contact supervisors when there is a problem but I really wanted to let you know that she is doing a great job.
5/10/2022	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Seward	

David Morefield	I want to recognize David for a whole lot more than just initiative: yes to the other categories listed (initiative, integrity, respect) as well. David has helped me through troubleshooting the Zoom-with-Google slide coordination for graduation, with added music and video from our department head not able to attend the event. David is an unflappable treasure, helps calm me so I don't go screaming out of the building--this is just not my area of expertise, at all--and a true pleasure to work with. Working on graduation this year, without benefit of a
5/12/2022	
Submitted by: Jeny Beausoliel	

	graduate program coordinator in place, has been a real challenge. This is usually a three-plus person effort, and we have made due with two. David has certainly made an impact on our department, and I and we appreciate him.
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Dana Rajczewski	I want to recognize Dana for a whole lot more than just initiative: yes to the other categories listed (integrity, respect, responsiveness) and also for myriad other ways that she goes above and beyond helpfulness as a colleague: she is creative, thoughtful, a wonderful problem-solver, always willing to help find workable solutions. She is an unflappable treasure and a true pleasure to work with. Working on graduation this year, without the benefit of a graduate program coordinator in place, has been a real challenge. This is usually a three-plus person effort, and we have made due with two. Dana is nothing short of amazing, and I am here to sing her praises.
5/13/2022	
Submitted by: Jeny Beausoliel	

David Sparace	I would like to formally and sincerely express my gratitude for the amazing work David accomplishes every day. He shows initiative, integrity, respect and responsiveness in every situation or issue that he working on. David's willingness to jump in and help us with our data analysis directly contributes to our successes and demonstrates his dedication to his position and the university. His actions directly impact the university by being an active member of our team helping us with our daily needs with our Slate application/implementation. I would like David to know that I value the amount of effort he puts into his work and that he is appreciated as a part of this team. Once again, David, thank you for your hard
5/24/2022	
Submitted by: Julia Norman	

	work. I look forward to seeing your future achievements and successes!.
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Lillie Lattimore	I would like to recognize Lillie Lattimore for her contributions to our upcoming research symposium. She has been a team player and very responsive in our weekly meetings, which has prevented avoidable project delays and mistakes. Had it not been for her, I wouldn't have gotten through the planning process. I appreciate her calm demeanor and the level of professionalism she has exuded to our presenters and moderators. I know our upcoming event will be a success, and its partially due to her.
5/24/2022	
Submitted by: Lauren D. Harris	

Lori Landes	Not just today, but every day - Dr. Landes is so helpful with making things easier for others, and this has become increasingly evident and appreciated when we are working through administrative transitions. She's clear and concise when giving guidance and assistance, and she often goes above and beyond to help take things off of others' plates (though her plate is quite full too). She's a great team member and a huge asset to everyone in our department and beyond - thank you, Dr. Landes!
5/26/2022	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Joe Derrico	Joe has been a great source of information and guidance as we are working through administrative transitions in our department! He is with us in an interim role (as he is headquartered in another department) but you would never know it based on the level of service he provides. He is very helpful and encouraging and it is very much appreciated by his colleagues. Thank you, Joe!
5/26/2022	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Scott Strayer	Dr. Strayer has been extremely helpful with taking some things off of my admin plate (when he has an extremely full plate himself!) as we go through a substantial administrative transition, and it has not gone unnoticed! He is very understanding of the need for a work-life balance, and he's helped me with that quite a bit (including when illness has knocked me out unexpectedly). I really appreciate his kindness, guidance, and willingness to think creatively about coverage as needed. Thank you, Dr. Strayer!
5/27/2022	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	
Dana Rajczewski	Dana helped me find information that was crucial to completing a faculty member's grant proposal. I would not have been able to complete this task and Dana helped me tremendously by pointing me in the right direction. Thanks, Dana!
4/11/2022	
Submitted by: Jeanine Giles Larson	
Harris Middleton	Harris assisted with the references section of a proposal due this week. He was very gracious in offering his time out of his busy schedule. Harris, thanks for using your expertise in Endnote to help Dr. Bradner finalize her proposal. It takes a team to ensure faculty success and I am glad you are part of ours!
4/11/2022	
Submitted by: Jeanine Giles Larson	
Jennifer Tennison	Jennifer has been a wealth of knowledge, support, and thoughtful feedback as we continue to update and revise programs to meet the needs of a changing future student demographic. She is responsive, respectful, and is always willing to go the extra mile to support her colleagues. Jennifer excels at anything she is tasked with, and comes into each situation with a can-do and positive attitude that is refreshing. I am thankful to have her as my colleague.
4/27/2022	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

March

Jennifer Cousinis	She is always efficient, willing, friendly and patient.
3/22/2022	
Submitted by: Nora Alder	

Sandra Mazzoli	I work with Sandra daily and she is always ready and willing to go above and beyond to help students. Her knowledge of VCU is expansive and her positive attitude is contagious. Sandra is a genuine and kind person who is responsive, supportive, and teamwork focused in everything she does. I feel lucky to work with her every day.
3/23/2022	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

Caimdyn Stewart	Caimdyn is always thinking about ways to improve our processes in order to maximize our time with students. She is student focused and her students LOVE her. She is approachable and collaborative. Recently she saw a need to connect different resources to students going into their experiential education phase of their program. She reached out to me and my colleague Jasmine to create resources and a presentation because she knew we both had a passion for career development. Caimdyn sees the full person and colleague and openly shares her enthusiasm for teamwork and collaboration across our teams. I am inspired by her passion and how much she cares for our students.
3/17/2022	
Submitted by: Jenna Lenhardt	

Joanna Bell	Joanna is a highly dedicated colleague and has worked tirelessly to develop budgets, budgets layouts, and reporting systems to support faculty, staff and administrators in the School of Education.
3/28/2022	

Submitted by: Lisa Abrams	Her attention to detail and commitment to providing timely fiscal information and in formats that are easily accessible has helped to make the work of many of her colleagues much easier and more efficient. We are so fortunate to have Joanna as part of our SOE team and appreciate her and her contributions!
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February

Carolina Wilson	Carolina is a highly valued member of the VCU Ram family and has always been able to help me find solutions to the unique situations presented by our students and advisors. Most recently, a student registered for the incorrect courses for Spring 2022. It was disclosed that the student had suffered an unexpected loss and unable to correct the registration error on their own. Carolina ensured that the Special Action request was processed in a very timely fashion thus alleviating the student's anxiousness and worry.
2/1/2022	
Submitted by: Sandra Mazzoli	

Stacey Wahl	Stacey is a valued member of the research and education team at the Health Science Library, and I have always enjoyed working with her. She has always been willing to help me out when asked. Over the last couple of weeks, she has helped me with two issues on short notice. Each time she did so without complaint. First, she helped me figure out the best way to address a problem with a citation tracking project and then made sure a VCU School of Nursing faculty member could have her questions addressed by meeting with her. Her assistance in both instances was a huge help. I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you and let her know that I value her as a colleague. Thank You!
2/9/2022	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

Deidre Henley	Deidre has been working to get a check to an external organization for months, and it's been a very long back-and-forth process to get it where it needed to go. She was persistent with the external group and worked with VCU Procurement to find a solution. She was very responsive to follow-up requests from me and from the external org, and she followed through until we got a resolution today. I knew it would be solved since it was in her hands, and that reassurance is most appreciated. Thank you, Deidre!!
2/16/2022	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Andrew Kollmer	Andy came to me with a question about something he was hearing from alternate sources about how well he (and his group) were helping me with my technology needs. I really appreciate the fact that he simply cut out the noise and just came to talk to me directly so we could be on the same page and not have any conflicting perspectives. I am so thankful to have such an ethical perspective as it makes things so much easier.
2/23/2022	
Submitted by: Jeff Smith	

January

Tabatha Dunlap	Tabatha goes above and beyond to take the initiative to assist her colleagues when needed. She is beyond knowledgeable; willing and able to devote time to developing others, sharing expertise and skills without being asked. Tabatha values the opinions and initiatives of others while providing guidance and constructive feedback in a respectful manner. Ms. Dunlap is respected among colleagues of all levels and demonstrates a positive attitude. She is truly an asset to the team.
1/13/2022	
Submitted by: Koshie France	

Dana Rajczewski	Dana is the quickest, most responsive employee I have maybe ever met. She never hesitates to jump in for scheduling needs and countless interviews and meetings would be put on the back-burner if it weren't for her and how quickly she's able to coordinate. Thank you for all that you do, Dana! You're a rockstar.
1/18/2022	
Submitted by: Lauren Jackson	

Julie Norman	Julie is always helpful! Recently we've had several students in the School of Education with unique admissions/readmissions situations and Julie has always been able to provide guidance and solutions. She is a positive and professional member of the team and a highly valued colleague.
1/18/2022	
Submitted by: Sandra Mazzoli	

Christopher Gorbitt	Chris and I work on the same team here in Technology Services. The main reason that is prompting me to recognize him is that he is ALWAYS willing to assist me (and others) when something is needed. An example of this is yesterday we received a last minute request from a customer and I was already on the road headed home. I called Chris and he assisted me with working on the issue and got the work done promptly and accurately. It is nice to work with someone with responsiveness like Chris Gorbitt.
1/19/2022	
Submitted by: Isac Crouch	

Justin Woods	I'm currently working a staggered schedule while I finish out my paternity leave, so effective and efficient coordination with people that are on campus is extraordinarily important. Justin Woods stepped into that role with vim and vigor today. Coordinating a caregiver panel with multiple parties (and their knowledge, or lack thereof of the tech involved) for the entire SOM Class of 2024 in Studios 7 & 8 - including the ability to
1/20/2022	
Submitted by: Chuck Alexander	

	field questions with the faculty providers in the room - could not have gone smoother thanks to Justin's immense talents. There were no tech issues, no echoes, no audio problems... nothing. Justin nailed it and deserves to be recognized.
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Felicia Harris	Diligent admin work enabling successful repackaging and resubmission of grant application. Felicia took on a larger-scale grant application with only an effective 10-day lead time before School of Medicine would want to see the application. She worked late and diligently to get the application (to a novel federal agency unfamiliar to her) routed and prepared in time.
1/21/2022	
Submitted by: James Bjork	

Caimdyn Stewart	Caimdyn always goes above and beyond to assist students and colleagues. She is a pleasure to work with. Thank you for all you do!
1/21/2022	
Submitted by: Samantha Ray	

Rami Hatoum	My laptop unexpectedly stopped working. Rami was able to replace it the same day and I had minimal disruption. He's a true professional and asset to our team.
1/21/2022	
Submitted by: Pam Hendrix	

Lauren Harris	I would like to recognize Lauren Harris, MS, MEd, for all the Initiative, Integrity, Respect and Responsiveness that she has shown during the past two years. I chose Initiative as the primary reason because at times of need, Lauren has shown leadership and the ability to fill in multiple roles. Lauren also does that with
1/2/2022	
Submitted by: Antonio Abbate	

	kindness and respect. Thank you for being an inspiration during these times of darkness.
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Earlene Charity	Ms. Charity provided excellent customer service. When I contacted her for assistance and clarity on different contracts, she went above and beyond to provide accurate information. When I contacted her with follow-up questions she again delivered exceptional service.
1/31/2022	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Seward	

2021

December

Jennifer Cousins	I would like to recognize and thank Jennifer Cousins for the wonderful work at the School of Education (SOE) but also for her initiative and drive to always go above and beyond in her sense of service and engagement. As a valued member of the SOE in the Teaching and Learning Department, Jen has quickly worked her magic to help in the work of the department but also to unite colleagues in a worthwhile and admirable cause. Jen successfully led a school wide effort at the SOE to collect Coats for Kids. This effort included faculty, staff, students, and friends of the SOE. Through her efforts the SOE collected over 125 coats to benefit the city wide Coats for Kids program and through her efforts has no doubt helped children in need in our community. This is not a new thing as her service work (previously as a school teacher) has been featured in local news and media. Her spirit of collaboration, service, and hard work is something to recognize and celebrate. Thank you Jen for your
12/3/2021	
Submitted by: Jose Alcaine	

	wonderful initiative, service efforts and dedicated work. We really appreciate it!
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Lauren Jackson	I want to recognize Lauren Jackson for her willingness to go above and beyond to help colleagues in our department. She is cheerful, kind, and a self-starter who has made a positive impact in the short time she has been in our department. She has helped manage leave and performance evaluation questions, a national job search, and gracefully juggled numerous demands from many faculty and staff across a large department that includes our center, despite the fact that she only joined VCU recently. She always responds quickly to any questions I have and has been a joy to work with.
12/7/2021	
Submitted by: Jill Hellman	

Greg Eskridge	Administrative Systems Student Applications Support has been involved in the implementation of the Partner Center student health insurance software application here at VCU, and Greg and the Infrastructure team have been instrumental in the VCU/Vendor file automation process. Greg has assisted with getting vital processes implemented to rename and transfer data files back and forth between VCU and the vendor. In addition, he has helped me with installing, copying, and updating scripts, Banner jobs, Atomic process flows, notifications, etc., between multiple environments, often times at the very end of the day, and sometimes even after hours, almost immediately in some cases. I want to recognize and thank Greg for his excellent responsiveness to this project and helping us to meet project deadlines. Thank you, Greg & team!
12/15/2021	
Submitted by: Debroah Baines	

November

Jessica Carey	Jessica was assigned to the Medicine and Health Development Team's temporary HR specialist while Ann Marie Taranto was on medical leave. Jessica assisted us during a very busy time in our office with 15 open positions (all in some stage of recruitment) and also one staff member on medical leave. Jessica was amazingly responsive --she provided expert guidance, was consistently available for help and questions and showed a tremendous initiative in helping us to submit paperwork and complete processes in accordance with HR policy and procedure. When she too had to be away for a few days on professional travel while she was helping to cover our office, she even took the extra step to connect us with some of her other HR colleagues in other departments so we always had someone to go to. With her help, we didn't miss a beat! She helped make the process seamless and as smooth as possible and we are unbelievably grateful to her.
11/11/2021	
Submitted by: Amy English & Niles Eggleston	

September

Talicia Tarver	Talicia is a valued colleague of mine in the research and education department. She is always good about helping out when asked. This past week, I had an issue that prevented me from teaching a webinar that I had scheduled. Talicia on short notice agreed to fill in and taught the webinar in my place. I just wanted to publicly thank her for doing this and for all the other ways she helps me and others out regularly.
9/14/2021	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

Talicia Tarver	Dr. Anton Ostashko, a resident physician with the Department of Neurology,
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9/16/2021	demonstrated qualities of integrity, responsiveness and a dedication to patient care. There was a situation in which a child needed an uncommon but urgent service overnight. It would depend on someone cross-covering another service not associated with the night shift role in question. He recognized this situation and stepped up to do that. His outside the box thinking and willingness allowed for the extraordinary care we strive for, to be delivered. He shows the kind of qualities and values we want to recognize. On behalf of VCU and our patients, thank you Dr. Ostashko.
Submitted by: Pearce Korb	

Lauren Jackson	Lauren is relatively new to our department, and she has hit the ground running! She is already a trusted resource to us, on both the university and health system sides for our department, and she has already shown a willingness to dig to find answers to the requestor's satisfaction. Thank you, Lauren - we are so glad you're here!
9/16/2021	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Jackie Kruszewski	Jackie was recognized by VCU University Relations for her lead role in a great media relations success last year sharing the news about VCU's remdesivir clinical trials for COVID-19, which VCU submitted as their entry to the Public Relations Society of America. "Standing out as a research hub with one of the East Coast's first COVID-19 treatment clinical trials," it earned a Virginia PRSA Award of Merit! This award underscores how important it is to have a strong communications team (and great teamwork) across the university's research enterprise. VCU University Relations took the time to thank and acknowledge Jackie's thoughtfulness and dedication as a communicator and for all of her incredible hard work and
9/21/2021	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Fortune	

	consistently collaborative spirit, on this project and on many others!
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August

Joe Lichtenstein	Every time I work with Joe, either through a ticket or a more pressing request, he is helpful, solutions-driven, and calm. He continually provides innovative solutions to complex challenges. Most importantly, he is willing to listen to the needs of the client, creating a custom solution rather than providing a canned response. This past Wednesday, I reached out to Joe with a pressing matter involving the Dean of the College of Health Professions. As is his style, he was flexible and able to help right away. The problem did not get resolved after the initial fix and he was open to connecting via Zoom a second time and working through the issue until it was solved. Dean Parish was impressed by the level of service, but I was not surprised. That is what I've come to expect from Joe.
8/4/2021	
Submitted by: Mike Forder	

Sam Yerkes	Whenever I am in a jam, which is more often than I would like to admit, Sam is on-the-spot with creative solutions and support. Just this morning, after launching a new website, I found to my great dismay that I had failed to appropriately check the browser support for the image file format I'd chosen for 142 images on the site and it turns out Safari version pre-Big Sur does not support it. When I reached out to Sam, he was - as always - fast to respond and help me find a solution that greatly increased the efficiency of my remediation (by MANY hours potentially). Not only does he offer help and solutions, but most importantly - he gives me the instruction and resources I need to help me learn and grow. I deeply value the analytical skills,
8/5/2021	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	

	experience, and spirit of learning he brings to our community. Thank you, Sam!
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Susan Kelley	As the building manager for multiple buildings in the Psychology Department, I am steadily making IT Support Tickets related to the campus controlled access system. I am always pleased with how quickly Susan addresses these requests. She truly makes my job easier by providing consistent excellent customer service! Thanks Susan!
8/25/2021	
Submitted by: Bob Burgess	

July

Tiffany Freitas	Tiffany has been an absolute joy to work with! But one thing that has stood out this summer has been her responsiveness when it came to planning the fall workshops for CTLE. She has also been on top of making sure that workshop participants had access to workshop materials, both prior to the workshop and emailing after the workshop with goodies and send-offs.
7/23/2021	
Submitted by: Thea Pepperl	

June

Warren Mays	Warren was especially helpful in troubleshooting and correcting issues that were an impediment to upgrading my laptop to Windows 10 to Version 21H1. She was very knowledgeable, deliberate, tenacious, patient and determined to resolve the issues. My workgroup is fortunate to be a part of Warren's customer portfolio; in addition to her work today, she is very consistent, responsive and reliable on the whole.
6/1/2021	
Submitted by: Brenda Mowen	

Matt Martin	Matt Martin worked with our RealSource (Jaggaer) team to resolve an issue that was allowing new users to gain access to RealSource without providing their email information. Once access was gained, Jaggaer's software would allow the user or RealSource sys admin to "add" the missing email information after-the-fact. Users who gained access to RealSource without providing an email address, were not receiving important communications from RealSource when transactions required their attention. After several weeks of looking at various options to correct this, Matt agreed to join our conversation and in our first meeting was able to identify a possible solution and in less than a day, he was able to test and deploy it. We are very grateful for his ingenuity, responsiveness and overall help. Good job, Matt!
6/3/2021	
Submitted by: Brenda Mowen	

Lillie Lattimore	Lillie did an amazing job at creating material that is critical for informing the impact of the CTSA grant but also, for creating material that is informative and should be utilized by the VCU research community.
6/9/2021	
Submitted by: Debbie DiazGranados	

LaToya Dixon	I just wanted to give recognition where it is due. LaToya recently joined us here at IDAS/CARI and she has been an excellent addition to our team. Her responsiveness and attention to detail helps me keep my department running as smoothly as possible. She always has a friendly demeanor and puts forth the effort to help whenever she can. Thanks Latoya, we appreciate you here.
6/11/2021	
Submitted by: Robert Cadrain	

May

Jackie Kruszewski	Jackie led a very successful initiative around International Clinical Trials Day setting a timeframe for delivery of multiple communication products, assembling a working group to develop communication instruments around clinical research, and driving consensus to deliver a final product that communicated the importance of clinical research and the significant role it plays in development of new drugs, devices, and diagnostic techniques. She is a rock star and a vital element of our collaboration on building a robust clinical research program.
5/20/2021	
Submitted by: Mary Harmon	

April

Tiffany Freitas	Tiffany is an outstanding colleague who is always such a delight to work and interact with. She makes things GO! I'd say that she always offers exemplary customer service--which is also true, but not nearly enough: instead, she does so much more, making every interaction feel meaningful, useful, and like an important exchange. Thanks, Tiffany, for all you do!
4/1/2021	
Submitted by: Katie Elliott	

Joanne Biggs	Joanne recently assisted me in making a purchase for a professional development item and she did a great job communicating during the process. She is always helpful when I need to order items and I thought this would be a good way to say thanks for all her help!
4/7/2021	
Submitted by: Bob Burgess	

Jeanine Guidry	Dr. Guidry has made difficult decisions to ensure that research continues to be conducted in the most ethical way, with particular consideration for showing utmost respect for research participants.
4/13/2021	

Submitted by: Stacy West	Her work and ongoing efforts are integral to maintaining trust between researchers and the communities we work with. Thank you!
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Marvin Reyes	Marvin's responsiveness is an asset to our department. Each time I contact Marvin for assistance with our new Palo Alto firewall he is quick to respond and assist me with implementing a solution. I really value having Marvin on the Network Services team. Thank you Marvin!
4/15/2021	
Submitted by: Isac Crouch	

Pam Hendrix	I interact with Pam on more than just the above date. I wanted to make sure she knows how appreciated she is and how thankful I am to be on a team with her. She is always timely in her responses and ready to help and give information or resources whenever I'm in need. I appreciate her positive attitude and willingness to assist in any way she can. She is a valuable asset to VCU and I feel lucky to work with her!
4/16/2021	
Submitted by: Tiffany Freitas	

Jenn Arce	I interact with Jenn on more than just the above date. I want to recognize Jenn for being a great teammate and always being willing to assist everyone on our team. She goes above and beyond in her role and always is ready to give information or resources when I need help with something. Jenn makes Faculty Affairs run smoothly and without her, we would be lost. I am thankful to work with Jenn and VCU is lucky to have her!
4/16/2021	
Submitted by: Tiffany Freitas	

Sandy Morgan	Although Sandy's primary role is to support the senior vice provost for academic affairs, her initiative in that regard delivers positive benefits to me also. Sandy takes initiative to ensure the
4/20/2021	

Submitted by: Andrew Arroyo	the entire SVPAA team is functioning at its best. Whether it's timely reminders about deliverables, coordinating meetings with multiple stakeholders whose calendars are conflicting, maintaining files so we have quick access to documents when needed or myriad other administrative functions, Sandy's initiative is a tangible asset to everyone who works with her. Thank you, Sandy!
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Jessica Abernathy	Jessica has done an excellent job coordinating the ICT International subcommittee, particularly on 4/20, when communications needed to be sent quickly in the wake of travel advisory changes issued by the US Department of State.
4/21/2021	
Submitted by: Sharon Jill Blondin	

Earlene Charity	Following a training session about the impact of VCU eVA vendor registration (eVA metrics and fees), Earlene immediately applied her training to save both the university and the vendor from paying excessive eVA fees. While a single act, Earlene consistently shows an eagerness to learn, a strong will and determination, and a disposition that strongly values team play. The Ops/Sys support staff values Earlene's contributions and appreciates her ongoing support.
4/21/2021	
Submitted by: Brenda Mowen	

March

Harrison Hayes	Harrison led his entire team through an uplifting and comprehensive overview of their quarterly accomplishments. Very well done and well received by the team!
3/18/2021	
Submitted by: Sheryl Garland	

Curtis Reisinger	Big shoutout to Curtis for his exemplary customer service! Last week, I found myself in a pinch with an uncooperative accordion panel and a quick turnaround for an upcoming virtual event. I submitted a ticket asking for help and explaining my timeline. In no time, Curtis was right there ready to save the day. Most people probably know Curtis by his regular name, but T4 folks at VCU know his true identity – Superman. Thank you for being a true superhero, Curtis!
3/18/2021	
Submitted by: Jessica Lyon	

February

Jasmine Anderson	I would like to recognize Jasmine for the extraordinary effort to ensure that all of the psychology summer courses were edited and uploaded to the schedule. We submitted numerous edits in a short amount of time, and Jasmine effortlessly updated and submitted the changes. While I was nervous due to the massive amount of changes and a short window of time before registration, Jasmine's attention to detail and responsiveness to our request truly made the process easier. I am thankful that Jasmine is our course scheduling coordinator. Jasmine is definitely an asset to RAR! Thanks, Jasmine, for your hard work and dedication!
2/11/2021	
Submitted by: Lucy Hudson	

Danielle Hairston	If the form would let me check all of the above qualities (initiative, integrity, respect, and responsiveness), I would. But I chose integrity because Danielle Hairston embodies integrity in all that she does. She models what it means to treat everyone with respect and concern. She has been consistently responsive and takes initiative to find answers to all of my questions. I have been consistently
2/15/2021	
Submitted by: Mark Wood	

	supported by her efforts and am thankful that she is a colleague. Thank you, Danielle. You're the best!
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2/15/2021	
Submitted by: Mark Wood	

Jessica Lonnes	I write to recognize Jessica Lonnes for her tremendous integrity, as well as the initiative, responsiveness, and respect she shows for everyone. Jessica is quick to help her colleagues complete tasks and solve problems. I know she does this above all because she is committed to the success of our students. She genuinely cares and she is committed to the success of our programs and the educational mission of the school. I count myself fortunate to have her as a colleague. Thanks for all you do to make our success real!
2/5/2021	
Submitted by: Mark Wood	

Margaret Lessard	Margaret (Meg) is a Senior Clinical Research Coordinator in Pediatrics and juggles a full study load in addition to managing several CRCs. Our department is incredibly busy and the workday is often stressful; however, Meg is always professional and responsive and takes the initiative to discuss status and issues to ensure the best outcome for all involved.
2/15/2021	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Olmsted	

McKenna Brown	Dear McKenna. I write to recognize you for your tremendous initiative. You took the proverbial bull by the horns when it came to helping revise the SETI program, aiding the co-coordinators of the program in their efforts to create a more appealing and doable certificate. Meanwhile, at the same time, you invested your time and energy to get the paperwork done for the 4+1 FRLG BA and MS in International Marketing and Management. In these two things alone your contributions to advancing the foreign language program were substantial, and among the three most important changes made to the program this year, and in many years. You did not hesitate when I asked if you would be willing to turn your attention to working with International Studies to revise the Latin American studies program. Most recently, you put together a creative and compelling grant proposal to build a partnership with the Universidad de Guadalajara to provide underrepresented students there and here at VCU with an opportunity to engage with and learn from each other through projects that involve the arts and issues of social justice and improving our world. Not bad for six months of work. Not bad for a year's work! And last but by far and away not least, I cannot thank you enough for your guidance on all matters related to our success. Thanks for all you do on behalf of our students, our faculty, and international education. I look forward to continuing our partnership as the School continues on its path.
2/16/2021	
Submitted by: Mark Wood	

Vera Abbate	Thank you for your dedication to the Italian Studies program, the success of our students, and the international educational mission of the School of World Studies. I am always impressed by your initiative, responsiveness, integrity, and the abiding
2/16/2021	
Submitted by: Mark Wood	

	respect you show for all. Your commitment to our success puts wind in our sails. I always learn so much from our conversations, not least about what it means to do the hard work of research and develop concrete actions we can take to improve our success in the classroom and beyond. Moreover, you always counsel kindness and collegiality and for that, I am deeply appreciative. In short, you model what it means to be an active and concerned citizen of our community. I know I speak on behalf of our colleagues when I say that we are inspired by you and fortunate to have you as our colleague. Best as we continue!
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January

Fonda Neal	Fonda Neal is filling in for a colleague who is out on medical leave. In addition to completing her own work, Fonda has added many of the duties of the Master's Program Coordinator to her already busy day. She has been gracious, kind, timely, accurate, thoughtful, positive, and available. I cannot say enough about her demeanor and her ready assistance. Her efforts have helped the Masters Program, and me personally, during a very busy and stressful time. Fonda deserves to be recognized and celebrated!!!
1/15/2021	
Submitted by: Carla Nye	

Lisa Ballance	This is to recognize and acknowledge Lisa for her regular and sustained support of me in my role here at VCU Massey Cancer Center. From the day I met her 1 year ago today Lisa has been a shining light ever aiming to assist, responsive to matters at hand and always present to give advice, pave a way to remove barriers, and ever so collegial. She is indeed an asset to VCU and a dear friend
1/28/2021	
Submitted by: Shar'Ron de Dreu	

	to Massey and me. Thank you Lisa for all that you do. It is so appreciated and now word can express my deepest gratitude.
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Elaine Reeder	She assisted in setting up my course on Canvas and provided me with help framing the course, formatting the course, and setting up the course in general. She additionally answered my questions when I was lost in using Canvas. Thank you, thank you!
1/28/2021	
Submitted by: Deborah DiazGranados	

2020

December

Rachel Koenig	Rachel is a member of the research and education department team that is always willing to step up to help. In the last couple of weeks, she has been a huge help as I attempted to get things together in order to gather data for some reports. I was not able to get access to the data I needed about the unique views for some library guides. When I asked Rachel about it, she immediately took time out to help me and I was able to eventually get what I needed. This is indicative of what she does often. I just wanted to recognize her responsiveness and say thank you.
12/1/2020	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

Faith Cooper	Faith is determined, dependable, and creative. She has been integral to the continued distribution of the Bioadvising Newsletter. She works on it without prompting and with innovative additions. If she says she will have something done, she means it. She has been the foundation holding together the bimonthly communication, and I would have quit the initiative in the spring without her
12/4/2020	
Submitted by: Rachel Hill	

	assistance (to the detriment of the students). Her presence has allowed the project to evolve and adapt as we've worked through different communication platforms. When it comes to student and faculty communication she takes initiative and reaches out to faculty members when she is concerned for a student; likewise, she is available to talk with faculty members when they need her regarding their students. Her patience and understanding with students is incomparable.
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Brandon Burneson	Brandon is a valued member of the research and education department. As always, over the last couple of weeks, he has shown himself to be a key member of the team. Over the last several weeks he has completed several projects. One noteworthy project was his work to turn around a report needed for a meeting with hospital leadership on a short timeline. I just wanted to recognize all the work that Brandon does in the department that allows the liaisons to do what they need to do. Thank you for all you do.
12/15/2020	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

Patrick O'Hare	Patrick was incredibly responsive to help the IRB make a few last-minute changes to the programming of our electronic submission system before the Winter Closing. He's really going above and beyond to help researchers and the IRB have smooth operations. Thank you so much for your help!
12/16/2020	
Submitted by: Elicia Preslan	

Talicia Tarver	Talicia is a valued member of the research and education department of the Health Sciences Library. This semester she has done a great job leading the online learning objects workgroup. She has helped get a handle on the learning
12/17/2020	

Submitted by: Roy Brown	objects produced by the department and has helped create a plan to archive those that are out of date. Her willingness to step up and take on this responsibility and others has been a big help this semester. I just wanted to recognize her willingness to take on new responsibilities and say thank you.
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Talicia Tarver	This past semester has been anything but typical. Over the course of this semester, Emily has helped me and a colleague transition into new interim leadership roles. She has done this while also moving into a new position. Regardless of what she has had going on, she has always been available and willing to help answer questions to ensure that we can do our jobs effectively. Her willingness to help and guidance has made the transition easier. I have appreciated her patience and thoughtful responses to the questions I have posed to her over the semester. She has been a great role model when it comes to being a good leader. I just wanted to thank her for all she has done this semester.
12/17/2020	
Submitted by: Emily Hurst	

November

Kristi Foltz	I would like to recognize Kristi Foltz in Engineering for all of her hard work. I work in procurement and Engineering is a huge department with so many end-user and complex procurement. Kristi is a consummate professional and is always so helpful. She helps me bridge the gap between procurement and the end-user to get the answers needed to complete contracts, purchases, and other additional finance tasks. I would like to publicly thank her for all that she does. I know that Bill and Gini know how lucky they are to have
11/11/2020	
Submitted by: Abigail Zaremba	

	her, but I want her to know that I appreciate her and all of her hard work is acknowledged and appreciated by procurement. I couldn't accomplish my part of the procurement process without her. Thank you Kristi for all that you do.
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Sharon Shields	I would like to thank Sharon Shields from Engineering. She has recently joined Engineering during this crazy time in the world. She has jumped right in and has proved to be a pro with RealSource and with submitting procurement requests. I am in Central Procurement and have really appreciated her jumping right into the action and handling Engineering's complex procurements like a well-seasoned veteran. Her positivity and sense of humor is a breath of fresh air. I really appreciate everything that she does to help me get these procurements over the finish line.
11/11/2020	
Submitted by: Abigail Zaremba	

Tiffany Freitas	I have worked with Tiffany many times and have always been impressed by her. There is no drama. She knows the people and places and gets things done, solving problems and making smart choices. I have been grateful to be able to rely on her wisdom and skill. Thank you so much!
11/12/2020	
Submitted by: Meriah Crawford	

Curt Blakenship	Curt has been at the forefront of our efforts towards keeping our students, staff, and faculty safe during this difficult time. His quick and effective response to every situation has been noted by many in our department.
11/16/2020	
Submitted by: Terry Austin	

Anita Yearwood	As the director of stewardship events for the Office of Development and Alumni Relations (DAR), Anita works tirelessly
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11/23/2020	and meticulously to plan strategic, creative stewardship events to thank the university's most generous donors. Since beginning her role in fall 2018, Anita has successfully executed the 2018 and 2019 Trani Scholars luncheons, 2019 Endowed Scholarship Dinner, seasonal gatherings at the home of President Rao, and the 2019 Founders' Society dinner. Her greatest challenge to date was accomplished this month: Anita planned and coordinated an innovative virtual experience to mark the close of the Make It Real Campaign for VCU, which has been highly praised by VCU donors, university leadership, faculty, and staff. Throughout a nine-month planning process, Anita took the unparalleled initiative and utilized the talents and skills of her colleagues to create a thoughtfully designed, donor-centered experience.
Submitted by: Kyra Molinaro	

Magdalena Marshall	I would like to recognize Magdalena Marshall for her outstanding job performance throughout the past year and also recognize her professional development since she began her position with the Practice of Clinical Medicine course. Mags has worked diligently to ensure the PCM course operated efficiently this year despite the pandemic and being short a staff member during the hiring freeze. During this time, we have had to adjust our course for remote and physically distanced learning, learn new software, pick up new duties, and maintain our students' and teachers' confidence. Mags has navigated this challenging year gracefully. Since starting with the PCM course two years ago, Mags has learned and mastered the fine details of intricate systems. This has led to a proactive work ethic and a high level of efficiency in
11/24/2020	
Submitted by: Denny Henson	

	operations. Thank you, Mags – for all of your hard work!! It is
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October

Lisa Yamin	At the unexpected resignation of the sole undergraduate adviser for the School of Education, Lisa did not hesitate to step in and offer her advising support to the undergraduate student population. Lisa took over the undergraduate caseload while maintaining a full-time position, teaching two sections of TEDU 101 and enrolled in a doctoral program. She agreed to remain as interim adviser until a permanent adviser was hired and continues to be a major resource as we transfer responsibilities to the new adviser.
10/16/2020	
Submitted by: Jewell Davis	

Edward "Joe" Lichtenstein	Though I'm pretty fluent with the Blackboard eLearning system, I've not had reason to jump into the intricacies of deploying tests -- until (pandemic) now. Last night I got stuck and lost almost two hours of work trying to figure out how to create random blocks of questions within the Bb test canvas. Ultimately I deleted -- aargh -- 15 to 17 'homemade test questions. So, my first task today was to try and recreate those from scratch. Of course, I was also doing all this under time pressure... I was trying to deploy a pre-scheduled exam for students! I called the Help IT desk this morning and found that questions regarding lost data and random blocks went well beyond the expertise of front line staff. I had already consulted Bb documentation and two tech support staffers, as did I, came up empty. Joe was kind enough to respond to the escalated request for support. It isn't his job to assist individual faculty in this way -- even though I tried to pass off my concern
10/5/2020	
Submitted by: Victoria Shivy	

	as related to data loss. My Bb 'issue' required Joe to stretch a bit, and try out some ideas, in order to safely park my work into an item pool, and to create several random blocks of exam questions from that pool. His work was focused and thoughtful. But, more than that, in working with me and allowing me to see the process, Joe taught me an important set of skills. Of course, he simply could have listened to my concerns, logged into my account, fixed things, and then let me know that the issue was solved. That probably would have been a quicker (and more pleasant) way to resolve the problem. But, with patience, kindness, and a sincere willingness to help -- I now can do this work for myself going forward! Joe's help not only gave me what I needed, but also went far above the call of duty. My Bb issue wasn't a real 'tech support' issue. But he helped out anyway, with respect and good humor. I hope you can give him a shout-out to echo the appreciation I expressed to him this afternoon!
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Patrick O'Hare	I want to recognize the outstanding customer service that Patrick has been providing to the HRPP/IRB this week with the RAMS-IRB system patch. I know that he put in extra time to make the patch happen on schedule, and his prompt email responses and willingness to work with us this week as we identified problems has been invaluable. We have been able to correct things quickly before they impact other users or office workflows. I truly appreciate the work he does!
10/2/2020	
Submitted by: Elicia Preslan	

September

Rebecca Lester Scholtes	Rebecca has done a fantastic job over the past several weeks regarding planning and implementation for our return to in-person data collection and the close-out of previous studies. Her responsiveness to needs related to data quality, IRB protocol review, and the hiring of a new work-study student have been exemplary. I've been particularly impressed with her time-management skills during a very challenging time in the semester. Very very thankful for her contributions!
9/30/20	
Submitted by: Caroline Cobb Amey	

John Kostyniuk	I would like to recognize John Kostyniuk for always being available to be a mentor and a wonderful "cheerperson" even though he is not my direct supervisor. John never hesitates to stop what he is doing to help answer my questions and show me new things. In addition, John is always giving positive feedback. He never hesitates to tell you that you are doing a great job. John doesn't stop there. He makes a point of shouting out your accomplishments to the whole team / department. John knows how to bring a team together with his positivity and his ability to see your strengths and champion them. I've really appreciated all of his support during this time that we have been working remote. The extra positive feedback and shout outs have meant a lot to me. I would like to thank John for being a shining light in our department at this time.
9/29/20	
Submitted by: Abigail Zaremba	

Dana Burns	Dana Burns volunteered to reinvigorate and revamp a nurse practitioner preceptor website that was partially completed, and languishing for attention. In the matter of a few weeks she cleaned up the website,
9/25/20	

Submitted by: Carla Nye		organized the pages, improved and updated the content, and presented a live preceptor training for current preceptors. This creative effort took time and attention on top of her already busy schedule. The product she produced will be used by preceptors throughout the program. Her efforts dramatically improved our outward facing resources and support for our valued preceptors, and the impact of her work will have a long reach in improving the education offered at the VCU School of Nursing.
Catherine Connon		Dr. Connon has spent countless hours developing virtual labs that come as close as possible to an in-person experience. She explored best practices and created her own integrated use of them to provide a unique and real learning opportunity. While she has been able to continue to teach in-person, this lab provides students an additional opportunity to learn, can be used for students who are unable to attend class and/or for all students if we need to move to campus wide virtual learning.
9/21/20		
Submitted by: Jo Murphy		
Jewel Worthy		Assigning teacher candidates' practicum placements is an incredibly challenging task that requires patience, organizational skills, and responsive relationship-building across schools and school divisions. In normal semesters, it is challenging. In a semester when school plans continue to change over the course of time and mentors' availability change as well, Jewel Worthy is an incredible source of support for our School of Education students! She confirmed new placements quickly, kept everyone in a communication loop, and ensured that all of our candidates have opportunities to learn from the
9/21/20		
Submitted by: Adria Hoffman		

	experienced educators in the Richmond area. Thank you, Jewel!!!
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Rachel Koenig	Rachel is a valued member of the research and education department team. She is always willing to help out and step up to fill in where she is needed. A prime example was this week when there was a need to figure out a workflow for updating the LibGuides for the department. When asked she immediately went about figuring out a workflow that would enable our new student worker to complete the task. Not only did she figure out a workflow, but she also went the extra mile of making a video demonstrating what went into the process. This was a huge help and allowed the student worker to start the process of getting these guides updated. I just wanted to recognize her responsiveness in addressing this issue and say thank you.
9/18/20	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

Dr. Inta Maggie Tolan	On behalf of the 30,000+ students--thank you for your leadership, expertise, and commitment to student success! You go above and beyond everyday, but during COVID, you have gone to the moon and back 10 times.
9/17/20	
Submitted by: Gypsy Denzine	

Catherine Connon	Dr. Connon has spent countless hours developing virtual labs that come as close as possible to an in-person experience. She explored best practices and created her own integrated use of them to provide a unique and real learning opportunity. While she has been able to continue to teach in-person, this lab provides students an additional opportunity to learn, can be used for students who are unable to attend class and/or for all students if we
9/14/20	
Submitted by: Jo Murphy	

	need to move to campus wide virtual learning.
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Carolyn Lee	There's no way to easily choose just one of the reasons to recognize a colleague when it comes to Carolyn! She has been doing an amazing job keeping the many HR parts of our department and division moving right along during unprecedented times, and I know it must often be a challenge to keep everything moving along as it should. Not only does she serve as an excellent resource for all of our current employees (particularly in light of many changes like leave for working parents and various teleworking/return-to-campus policies), but she has made our new faculty members feel welcome even before they arrived. Her attention to onboarding details and availability to answer questions and anticipate potential issues goes a long way in making new people feel like a part of the team right from the start. Thank you for all you do for all of us, Carolyn!
9/1/20	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

August

Shauntee McKeever	I was introduced to Shauntee by email. She was quick to get a cleaning crew to Mike Hughes Hall when we needed some emergency cleaning. On 9/1/20 I notified her that we weren't seeing the cleaning crew during the day, she had someone over quickly. Whenever I have a question, I get an immediate response. Shauntee is the best! Thank you for reducing my level of stress.
8/27/20	
Submitted by: Andrea Groat	

Wanda Williams	Wanda has been amazing to work with on the transition of the HR Training room on
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8/12/20	the medical campus to the VCU/VCUHS COVID Hotline Center. She was responsive and innovative in her guidance to install the needed telephone services. Wanda is a true example of excellence in service.
Submitted by: Julie Coggsdale	

Nathan Hellenbrand	I'm relatively new to using T4 for anything more substantial than editing existing content and Nathan has been a wonderful resource to make it happen! He explains things in a way that makes sense and he is patient and encouraging. He has helped give me the confidence to do more website work on my own and I can't thank him enough.
8/12/20	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Sam Byrd	Sam, anytime I call on him for help with VCU Scholars Compass issues is always responsive and helpful. This past week I had to rush to get a white paper placed into the institutional repository because it was going to be published in a book chapter. Sam quickly helped me to get it posted so I could share it. Then when I came to him with several adjustments he was quick to attend to them and help me out, enabling me to get the new publication to the publisher and to have the latest version of the document for a meeting at the hospital the following day. I just wanted to formally thank him for all of his help this past week and in the past. I appreciate having you as a colleague at VCU Libraries and thanks again for your assistance.
8/10/20	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

Brandon Burneson	Brandon over the last couple of weeks has shown himself to be an integral part of the research and education department at Health Sciences Library for the Health Sciences (TML). He has been available to assist with various tasks that needed to be
8/10/20	

Submitted by: Roy Brown	completed to get TML open. He helped to design the signs that have been used to inform patrons of the changes at TML and volunteered to work at the Health and Wellness Library when there was no one to open it during the first week of August. To top it off he headed up the library efforts when it comes to planning the TML Weeks of Welcome and has created a video to provide a virtual tour of the library for new students. Thanks for your hard work, myself and others in the department appreciate it.
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Abigail Zaremba	I worked with Abigail on the procurement of COVID-19 VCU return to campus supplies. Abigail was a great resource and out of the box thinker that led to the allocation of materials for VCU to begin its mission of a safe return to campus. Abigail not only supported this effort but also supported the Research community in order to get the PPE needed for research to continue.
8/7/20	
Submitted by: Christopher Melton	

July

Danielle Nilson	I wish I could've clicked on all aspects of recognition about Danielle Nilson. I've been meaning to submit this form sooner about how outstanding Danielle is every time I call her. She possesses all the qualities of an exemplary employee! (I am the building manager and the parking lot is limited to 20 spots; there are many outsiders who try to use our lot.) Danielle is always extremely helpful and submits the request and contacts people within her department to come to our parking lot and handle the issue. Kudos to Danielle Nilson!
7/28/20	
Submitted by: Andrea Perkins	

Brittny Davis	Brittny and I work together in Procurement Services. I am a Buyer and she is a Contracts Analyst. I have to really thank her for helping me with my contracts over the last few months. I have been juggling a ton of projects and she is so responsive. She turns them right back around to me. If there is ever any real drawn out negotiation it is on the part of the vendor. Not only has she helped me get things done expeditiously, she has taught me a lot about contract law and the reasons behind what we are negotiating. In addition she always gives me a helping hand when I try to create a contract with one of our standard templates. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank her and tell her I appreciate all she has done. Thank you Brittny!
7/20/20	
Submitted by: Andrea Perkins	

Abigail Zaremba	Brittny and I work together in Procurement Services. I am a Buyer and she is a Contracts Analyst. I have to really thank her for helping me with my contracts over the last few months. I have been juggling a ton of projects and she is so responsive. She turns them right back around to me. If there is ever any real drawn out negotiation it is on the part of the vendor. Not only has she helped me get things done expeditiously, she has taught me a lot about contract law and the reasons behind what we are negotiating. In addition she always gives me a helping hand when I try to create a contract with one of our standard templates. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank her and tell her I appreciate all she has done. Thank you Brittny!
7/20/20	
Submitted by: Andrea Perkins	

Christopher Melton	I would actually like to recognize Chris Melton for all of the reasons listed above. Initiative, Integrity, Respect, and
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7/20/20	Responsiveness. Shortly after we went to Mandatory Telework due to Covid19 I was contacted by someone else to help source supplies for Covid19. Turns out I was late to the party and I started stepping on toes when I started reaching out to vendors. That's how I found out Chris Melton was already working on procuring supplies. After talking we teamed up together to try to coordinate our efforts. I have to say in all of my years working in Procurement I had never been so impressed by another colleague and their knowledge of the supply chain and logistics. Chris has gone above and beyond to create a safe University for us to return to. He has been very ingenuitive finding alternate vendors, products, and supply chains. His creative ideas put VCU ahead of the other VA State Universities in preparedness and planning. While other Universities are still struggling to find supplies Chris utilized contracted vendors, SWaM vendors, and vendors I would have never thought to contact. I feel like he has been a step ahead of everyone these last 5 months. He has taught me so much. He also is probably the nicest person I have ever met. Chris is so responsive and down to earth. Nothing seems to shake him. He is calm in the middle of a storm. VCU is very lucky to have him.
Submitted by: Abigail Zaremba	

Sarah Carrier	Sarah - Thank you for leading our team fearlessly during these crazy few months! I admire the way you stepped right in to handle crisis after crisis in a very calm and proficient manner. Thanks for your encouragement, ideas, energy and teamwork as well!
7/1/20	
Submitted by: Amy Leap Miller	

June

Evan French	Evan has stepped up and helped me out in several ways over the past couple of months. Most recently, he took care of some database synchronization work that had been holding up progress for several other stakeholders. Before that, he built a utility to export RedCap data into a SQL database, making it much easier to use that RedCap data for reporting or provisioning. Additionally, he has been assisting with COVID related data requests. Evan's technical ingenuity and proficiency has been a tremendous help at a time when I have been overwhelmed with data requests and projects.
6/20/20	
Submitted by: Travis Oakes	
Scott Crenshaw	Scott Crenshaw is the building manager for the VCU School of Pharmacy. He has returned to the Smith Building as of June 15th to be sure everything having to do with PPE/Covid preparations was done so that the first phase of 'return to research' was a success. Scott Crenshaw continues to handle a multitude of responsibilities that have been added to his position because of the Covid 19 emergency. He has handled all of these added responsibilities with purpose and a helpful attitude.
6/16/20	
Submitted by: Laura Georgiadis	
Amanda Silvester	Thank you for always being so supportive of our research training program, especially so as we navigate running the program remotely. Your quick attention to problems is greatly appreciated by me and the students find comfort in your kind, timely problem-solving emails.
6/9/20	
Submitted by: Amy Adkins	
Lily Cox-Richard	My recognition for Lily goes beyond the single date listed above or the single characteristic I selected. Lily is my area

6/3/20	head for Space Research in Art Foundations, and the leadership and guidance she showed us this spring semester was exceptional. When faced with the unprecedented change and challenges COVID-19 heaved upon our School of Art, Lily unflinchingly led us forward. She was ever available to answer questions, supplied us with loads of resources to support us in adapting to teach online, started a shared resource of prompts and project ideas, and initiated weekly meetings. And we looked forward to the weekly meetings, in which Lily cultivated a relaxed and supportive atmosphere, kept us informed of updates and new resources that had become available, and inquired into our highs and lows of online teaching. Strangely - given we found ourselves teaching in the midst of a pandemic, and not so strangely - given Lily's Leadership, our faculty grew stronger together and our relationships with each other deepened. Lily is a selfless leader who is deeply talented as a leader, professor and artist. I am learning so much from her and wanted to take this opportunity to acknowledge that and thank her for her incredibly skilled, committed and inspired work.
Submitted by: Katie Kehoe	

Jamie Cage	Dr. Cage could be recognized for each of these categories. Since her arrival to the school a couple years ago she has taken the initiative to speak out against social injustices around the world and on-campus. She purposefully creates space for her colleagues and her students to debrief, talk to, guide or encourage. She took on the role of adviser for ABSW and has transformed that student organization to do really meaningful work at VCU and in the city of Richmond. During these hard times faced with a pandemic and
6/1/20	
Submitted by: Quinn Mathlin	

	injustices towards Black people, Dr. Cage has been responsive even when not asked to do so. She reached out to her colleagues and school of social work students to let them know they are heard, valued, supported and respected. She does this in the most respectful and genuine fashion. She is an all-star among faculty and a true asset.
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May

Tom Woodward	Tom Woodward has been a tremendous help to me (and therefore the entire Urban Educator Collaborative Team) through his expertise, professionalism, positivity, and consistent willingness to support, co-create, and educate! Our team was recently in a perplexing (and very time-sensitive) spot when trying to determine the best way to create (and ultimately build) a virtual Professional Learning series for K-12 educators and Tom was at the ready to help - via email, zoom, phone, or chat!! I know he and his team are extremely busy right now, yet he spent as much time as I needed to help me build an interactive Rampages site that was highly functional within our parameters, would keep adult participants engaged, and allow me and my team to track appropriate metrics. I have sought out Tom and his team on several occasions for various School of Education and Center for Community Engagement & Impact initiatives and I am always impressed (and appreciative) of their talent, innovation, responsiveness, and respect! Tom (nor his team) have ever made me feel like I had a "stupid question" and have always guided me to a place of solutions - teaching me along the way! I wanted to take this time to recognize Tom Woodward and team for their amazing
5/29/20	
Submitted by: Amanda Hall	

	work on behalf of our faculty and staff! Without their support (especially now) I truly believe VCU would not be able to uphold our mission - student success, National prominence, and community transformation only occur if we have the tools to make the magic happen! Tom and his team definitely help provide us with the tools. Thanks, Tom!!!
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Jillian Carpenter	Jillian has been an extraordinary teacher and colleague throughout the pandemic. She is one of the most effective communicators I have met and has worked tirelessly to make sure our students and community partners are informed of each stage of the process for social work internships during the pandemic. I have counted on Jillian's exceptional collaborative nature over the course of the last two months to develop two brand new courses to accommodate student needs during this time. Jillian always provides thorough feedback that comes from a lens of enhancing student learning and facilitating a curriculum that recognizes and affirms social justice. Jillian exemplifies our social work values and her initiative provides our school with tremendous support. Thank you!
5/29/20	
Submitted by: Cameron Carter	

Christopher Melton	I began working with Chris Melton in FMD back in the beginning of April to help procure PPE items for students and employees for when they return to campus. I was super excited and ready to go since Medical and Research procurement has been my area of expertise since 2013. I was pleasantly surprised when I jumped into the mix and Chris Melton had already been able to find alternate vendors to supply VCU PPE that were not part of our regular supply chain.
5/29/20	
Submitted by: Abigail Zaremba	

	His knowledge of supply chain and logistics thoroughly impressed me and inspired me to be more creative and go all in to support him and the University's mission to make campus a safe place during this time. I really have to say he is a rockstar. He is able to find and secure items no one else can get. I have learned so much from him during this process. Not only is he knowledgeable he is responsive. Chris is always available to talk things through. He goes out of his way to help any of our people in immediate need. What's even more impressive is he is always happy and kind. I know he is working from sun up to sun down to make this happen for VCU. Chris never appears worn out or frustrated. I feel he needs to be recognized by the University for his hard work and for the way he handles the stress and continues to always stay patient and kind. He is a true example of what VCU is about. I am honored to be working with him and learning so much from him along the way. Thank you Chris for everything you are doing for us.
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Danielle Hairston	In truth, I am actually nominating Danielle Hairston for recognition in ALL listed areas- Initiative, Integrity, Respect, and Responsiveness. This is also not for just 5/28, but since March I have worked with Danielle on a nearly daily basis. Throughout the entire pandemic response from VCU thus far, Danielle has remained a positive force who has handled a mountain of new information, policy, and tasks remarkably well. Danielle has been an incredible LEADER throughout. Her guidance for HR coordinators (or anyone who deals with HR responsibilities) and the countless folks who reach out to her has truly been invaluable. I don't know how I would have made sense of my job
5/28/20	
Submitted by: Corey Martin	

	over the past three months had it not been for her. Danielle has had to deliver bad news, or assisted others in doing so, constantly, and the grace and poise with which she handles each delicate situation is a sign of her talent, skill, and compassion as an HR Director. I haven't enough good words for Danielle, and am truly grateful to have the privilege of working with her.
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Lisa Smith Wead	I wish I could have selected all four options for this recognition. Lisa is invaluable in her position and is the glue that binds the department together. She is always willing to not only help others when they need assistance but to teach them how to complete the task so they can do so in the future. She is busier than ever and still willing to help me with tasks.
5/28/20	
Submitted by: Kristen DiLorenzo	

Marisa Guida	Marisa Guida is the heart and soul of the Winning Presentations course. She is dedicated to excellence and has worked tirelessly with her team to create the best online version of the course. I am grateful for her leadership during this strange time.
5/22/20	
Submitted by: Heather Falks	

Jessica Carey	Jessica is an amazing staff member. During the Covid crisis she was instrumental in mobilizing the resources for teleworking for the staff. She was also incredibly innovative in creating and organizing daily activities for team health, well being and connection during this time. She manages to do this with a great attitude and is such a pleasure to work with.
5/22/20	
Submitted by: Amelia Grover	

Katherine Munson	Kit is an amazing nurse. She has pivoted in the time of Covid and gotten the clinics
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5/23/20	up and running smoothly in the transition to telehealth. She has also worked hard to transition the pre-op teaching necessary for our patients to a virtual platform and helped to educate and prepare the patients for their virtual visits.
Submitted by: Amelia Grover	

Liz Canfield	I just wanted to give a shout out to Liz Canfield for the incredible work she is doing with leading our iCubed cohort.
5/22/20	
Submitted by: Sonali Gulati	

Kathryn Murphy-Judy	Dr. Murphy-Judy freely shared her technological and pedagogical expertise with a number of School of World Studies instructors during the transition to teaching and testing online in March, April and May of 2020. She was incredibly generous with her time and support, and we are lucky to have her as a colleague.
5/22/20	
Submitted by: Laura Middlebrooks	

Roberto Ventura	Roberto has led the Department of Interior Design through this crisis with a great thoughtfulness for students and faculty - he led a graduation for our students that lifted them up and recognized their achievements, all while this was his first year as interim chair. I would like for him to be recognized for his leadership through such a challenging semester.
5/22/20	
Submitted by: Sara Reed	

Valerie Robnolt	On three separate occasions Valerie Robnolt has contacted me and offered to pick up materials from Oliver Hall that I might need to successfully teach my class. In addition to picking up the materials, she brought them to my house. I appreciate the care and concern that she has shown, and she has helped me not only with the
5/22/20	
Submitted by: Lisa Cipolletti	

	conclusion of the spring semester but in my current summer course. She is a person who continually thinks about the needs of others, and I appreciate her as a colleague and friend.
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Betsy Moscoso	Betsy has shown remarkable strength and willpower in getting a job done in the face of the pandemic. She is working understaffed and still manages to stay a step ahead of all of us. Great work ethic and amazing ability to finish tasks. She is amazing and her hard work deserves to be recognized.
5/22/20	
Submitted by: Chris Broschart	

Curtis Reisinger	Unfortunately, this form limits my choices to one date/interaction and one domain for which Curtis deserves recognition. The truth is Curtis has provided me and my unit excellent and consistent service since I've known him and in all the areas listed. His support and encouragement on a near weekly basis has been a key factor in helping me establish a web operations framework in CHS. He is generous in sharing his technical knowledge, but also perspectives from a university level that I need that help me make better decisions. On a more personal level, he has provided me encouragement, motivation, and validation during times when I have struggled with skill deficits and project snafus. This more than anything has meant the world to me and has kept me moving forward in positive directions through the toughest times in my job. Curtis, thank you for all your support!
5/22/20	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	

Edna Renee Macbeth	Edna Renee has been a communication asset to UAA during the last two months. She has attended important meetings and training (Staff Senate, UUCC, NACADA webinars) and read through lengthy
5/21/20	

Submitted by: Betsy Seymour	updates (VCU's Covid-19 page, emails from the Provost and President) with intention. The office counts on her to quickly disseminate this material, recognize what's important for us to know, and provide team updates. Most recently, she attended the Staff Senate town hall and quickly summarized Dr. Hackett's updates regarding potential fall return. She did this in a way that prioritized information (rather than speculation) and demonstrated her leadership in the areas of communication and responsiveness.				
<table> <tr> <td data-bbox="185 695 826 814"> Michael Rosenberg </td><td data-bbox="826 695 1453 1241" rowspan="3"> Dr. Rosenberg has not been part of the VCU leadership long but was tasked as co-chair of the Committee to reboot our General Education curriculum. This task required not only an exact knowledge of GenEd at a University level - how all the parts interact and move - but an ability to communicate these parts to all groups at VCU from upper admin down to each dept. Dr. Rosenberg's initiative in helping develop and launch the GenEd curriculum will be appreciated by our faculty, staff, and students across VCU. </td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="185 814 826 913"> 5/22/20 </td></tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="185 913 826 1241"> Submitted by: Brian Verrelli </td></tr> </table>	Michael Rosenberg	Dr. Rosenberg has not been part of the VCU leadership long but was tasked as co-chair of the Committee to reboot our General Education curriculum. This task required not only an exact knowledge of GenEd at a University level - how all the parts interact and move - but an ability to communicate these parts to all groups at VCU from upper admin down to each dept. Dr. Rosenberg's initiative in helping develop and launch the GenEd curriculum will be appreciated by our faculty, staff, and students across VCU.	5/22/20	Submitted by: Brian Verrelli	
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5/21/20					
Submitted by: Steve Crossman, MD					

	locations, proctors, etc. She also had to manage last minute concerns about power and connectivity at one testing site. She did this all without hesitation and while ensuring the highest level of STAR values and customer support for all students. For this reason she is most worthy of this recognition.
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Paul Babitts	Dr. Paul Babitts is an exceptional leader in the VCU community. He not only organizes and leads VCU's Immigration Office, but he shares his knowledge and patience with VCU employees and students. Paul is a wonderful leader and helps us understand and work through the most complex issues facing our university and nation. Thank you Dr. Babitts for always advocating for your staff and sharing your knowledge with the wider VCU community. I appreciate you!
5/20/20	
Submitted by: Michele Webb	

Kim Case	If you have met Kim, you would know what I am talking about! She is one of a kind! She will bring sunshine to you, if she knows you can't go get it yourself. With a limited resource she has, Kim has fully committed 200% of herself to the success of our faculty since she began her position last August. She works on building a community for all our faculty (adjunct, tenure-track, and term faculty) through a wide array of programs and workshops. During this difficult time (COVID-19 pandemic), Kim hosted and coordinated numerous workshops and webinars to ensure our faculty a smooth transition to teaching remotely. The VCU Peer Support to Keep on Teaching Facebook page she initiated during the pandemic provides a platform for our faculty to share information, exchange ideas and expend network in our teaching community. Her
5/20/20	
Submitted by: Ching-Yu Huang	

	positive attitude towards work and her trust and confidence in you make you feel "REAL"! Thank you, Kim! We are so thankful to having you in our Ram Family!
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Shira Schieken	Shira is an asset to the university with her knowledge, attentiveness, adaptability and initiative. Shira not only helps international students, scholars and university employees, but she has continued to teach her classes for the VCU School of Business. Shira has adapted creatively to VCU's new online model and is responsive to VCU students and staff. Shira is a wonderful team mate and is an asset to the VCU community. Thank you Shira for all of your hard work and knowledge. I appreciate you!!
5/19/20	
Submitted by: Michele Webb	

Kelly Coldiron	Kelly came to my aid after hours when my step daughter was in crisis. I have a VCU student at home who was having a melt down over a class and it was the night before add/drop. I have called on Kelly in the past for help so I took a chance and called her at 7 pm. When I explained the situation and my step daughters problem, she went to work right then and there. Kelly pulled up her record and asked if my step daughter would be comfortable talking to her on the phone. Kelly made a telephone appointment for my step daughter the very next morning. Kelly had the whole situation worked out and my step daughter got her problem taken care all before noon! Because of Kelly's willingness to go the extra mile after hours, a student in need received stellar service. Thank you Kelly for caring about our students and always being a pleasure to work with.
5/19/20	
Submitted by: Polly Griffin	

Erin Van Vleet	In the past several weeks, Erin has been called upon to determine how best to set up virtual exams for all of the VCU medical students using a national test. This has required her to arrange schedules, recruit and train proctors, provide necessary accommodations, respond to very anxious students, troubleshoot technical issues, juggle her young sons and other work responsibilities. To top it all off, she personally proctored 7+ hours of exams.
5/19/20	
Submitted by: Judy Gary	

Erin Van Vleet	In the past several weeks, Erin has been called upon to determine how best to set up virtual exams for all of the VCU medical students using a national test. This has required her to arrange schedules, recruit and train proctors, provide necessary accommodations, respond to very anxious students, troubleshoot technical issues, juggle her young sons and other work responsibilities. To top it all off, she personally proctored 7+ hours of exams.
5/19/20	
Submitted by: Judy Gary	

John (Alex) McWhorter	Alex has worked tirelessly to hold our "office" together through COVID-19. He has created countless Docusign forms at a moment's request to facilitate our ability to work from home. He is **always** available when anyone needs anything no matter how small or how complex. Being the office manager of Procurement Services is a tough job on a regular day (we are a high maintenance bunch!), but taking care of our needs when we are not all in one location is a herculean effort. Alex has handled it all with grace and humor. I am grateful for everything he has done and continues to do for us on a daily basis. I hope his contributions to the office before the pandemic, and especially during, are given the recognition they
5/15/20	
Submitted by: Molly Gross	

	deserve. Thank you Alex for putting up with us and helping us through this!
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Christopher (Dinkus) Deane	Christopher "Dinkus" Deane has been the point person for the VCU School of the Arts and has taken all requests for persons needing to come to the campus and enter any VCUarts facilities. He has made numerous trips to campus so that faculty and staff (also students, I believe) could access spaces to pick up items that were needed in order to do their jobs. In the case of the Department of Music, he met with our piano technician so that he could tune and monitor our very valuable concert grand pianos so that they did not deteriorate during the time of the buildings being closed. He has worked with other people's schedules and never made anyone feel like it was inconvenient for him. His integrity and willingness to take the initiative to make it easy for others is exemplary.
5/15/20	
Submitted by: Linda Johnson	

Mark Meier	I'm nominating Mark Meier for his tireless work helping out students in need, particularly during this past month. I believe Mark did a great job of reaching out to students and working with them one on one, while also providing both academic and mental support in ways that go beyond his job requirements.
5/15/20	
Submitted by: Nadia Inserra	

Laura Gariepy	Laura worked tirelessly to set the VCU Libraries up for success as we moved to a virtual environment and is leading the way for the VCU Libraries to reopen our physical spaces safely. She is highly collaborative and an excellent advocate.
5/15/20	
Submitted by: Teresa Knott	

Kristen Ramussen	Kristen has become an invaluable member of the Online@VCU/ALT Lab team. Her initiatives will help to make the program more productive and cost-efficient which is critical in the times ahead. WAY TO GO!
5/14/20	
Submitted by: Ciera Harris	

Derek Hottell	I would like to recognize Derek for his continued support through the COVID19 pandemic. I work in Central Procurement as a Senior Buyer. Derek has assisted by giving disinfectant wipes normally used at the Cary Street Gym to the VCU Police a few weeks ago. Most recently today, he was able to provide wipes for Student Health until their shipment arrives. PPE and disinfectant wipes are hard to come by. There is a raw materials shortage keeping manufactures from being able to produce wipes. His generosity in helping our first responders and Student Health department is amazing. I know his department has been hit hard by this crisis but he still finds the spirit to give. I am truly grateful for his assistance.
5/14/20	
Submitted by: Abigail Zaremba	

Christy Tyndall	Dr. Tyndall has been a consummate colleague during this time. Even though she has many demands on her time—children at home, a high course load, obligations to many committees—Christy has been extremely flexible, responsive, supportive and reliable. I am especially impressed by her cool-headed, problem-solving attitude with students and colleagues alike. And, I'm grateful for how Dr. Tyndall always steps up to help everyone in a supportive and useful way.
5/13/20	
Submitted by: Mary Boyes	

Aimee Walters	The Office of the Provost (academic affairs) frequently receives time-sensitive requests regarding existing, new and
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5/13/20	innovative academic programs. These requests often require market research. Aimee Walters goes above and beyond the call of duty in producing market research that academic units use to inform action. On a personal level, I appreciate Aimee's high level of responsiveness. She is a model teammate and a true asset to VCU. Thank you, Aimee!
Submitted by: Andrew Arroyo	

Sterling Daniel	Mr. Daniel has been working countless hours to manage a budget crisis in CHS and he has done so with integrity and respect. We have some difficult choices to make as a college and a university and I am comforted to have someone like Sterling participating in our decision making.
5/12/20	
Submitted by: Michael Southam-Gerow	

Alexis Finc	Alexis and her team have done a remarkable job with the CHS virtual graduation celebration! In addition to the College page, they coordinated pages for all the units - this was a remarkable amount of work and she has done a stellar job keeping it all organized! They deserve a lot of credit for making the day special for our graduates. Additionally, Alexis has gone above and beyond in helping us reach out to prospective students, despite the limitations placed by SEM. Her help and responsiveness in setting up our virtual preview day was amazing and she even stepped in to check on us during the Zoom event. Our recruiting and outreach efforts have DEFINITELY stepped up since Alexis has been with the college. THANK YOU!
5/8/20	
Submitted by: Tracey Dawson Cruz	

Jennifer Elswick	Jen has managed to do the work of an army for the College this semester, but she is just one person!! Her help through the year on the unit websites and her work
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5/8/20	on getting the graduation sites up has been truly remarkable! We are so grateful for all of her hard work.
Submitted by: Tracey Dawson Cruz	

Carolina Wilson	Carolina has always worked tirelessly in making sure that all is complete and taken care of, in all that I've seen her involved in. No matter the situation, she's always professional, and quickly helps in resolving issues.
5/8/20	
Submitted by: Daryl King	

Donielda Tripp-Leino	Donielda is always incredibly responsive when I need to request changes to a student's posted transfer credit! She's wonderful in every interaction that I have and is very good at double checking any unusual requests I may have.
5/8/20	
Submitted by: Rigby Bendele	

Cameron Carter	Cameron has taken a leadership role in supporting faculty field liaisons in adjusting to the changes brought on by the pandemic. She advocated for the needs of liaisons, field instructors, and students when developing revised program policies and procedures and has made herself available in both regularly scheduled and immediate ways to process reactions, problem solve, and plan for the future. She also took a leadership role in creating revisions to the summer field courses necessitated by the stay at home order and through this process has both been collaborative and taken the initiative to develop two entirely new syllabi. As it always is, her work on this has been grounded in integrity to student learning while also keeping the capacity of instructors in mind. Cameron is an indispensable member and leader of our team and school.
5/8/20	
Submitted by: Abbie Innebrew	

Megan Rapchick	Megan has done a fabulous job pulling a team together to offer our graduating students a virtual recognition ceremony. She was very well organized and the end product is fabulous. This is an important event in the lives of our students and I am grateful that we had an opportunity to recognize their efforts. Thank you Megan!
5/8/20	
Submitted by: Jean Giddens	
Tyler Conrad	The last six weeks has been a whirlwind of hard deadlines for our team and Tyler has proven to be of critical importance to our success. I have appreciated his easygoing attitude when having to re-perform tasks that would have flustered the most patient among us. He produced great products on time and with attention to detail. He kept up with priorities that were sometimes shifting by the minute and demonstrated a great attitude throughout that I aspire to emulate myself! Thank you, Tyler!
5/8/20	
Submitted by: Jen Elswick	
Jennifer Elswick	Jen Elswick is the gift that keeps on giving. She is talented, knowledgeable, hard-working, and through it all, always responsive and giving of her time. The work she and the other members of the CHS communications team have accomplished in quarantine during an extremely challenging time is inspiring. The work includes, but I'm sure it is not limited to setting up the "get to know a student" for each of the CHS departments, as well as the "graduation 2020" pages for each of the CHS departments. I am very happy to submit this form to recognize her work as well as the work of Tyler Conrad and Alexis Finc, and any other staff involved in these projects.
5/7/20	
Submitted by: Andrea Wight	

Mike Forder	Mike is attentive and takes the initiative to get the job done. He is supportive and approachable. He brings the team together and is eager to help.
5/8/20	
Submitted by: Suzanne Wright	

John Hendershot	John continues to "Hold Fast" no matter what changes are occurring. I am so grateful to have a supervisor who is resilient, steady and continuing to excel.
5/8/20	
Submitted by: Sara Midkiff	

Scott Oates	Scott has leveraged his expertise to make a significant contribution to the re-launch of academic program review. Whether providing critical operational support and training to myself and the academic units in Taskstream, or giving insightful, substantive feedback on program review content such as the handbook and self-study questions, Scott's responsiveness has been invaluable to this university initiative for degree program excellence. Thank you!
5/7/20	
Submitted by: Andrew Arroyo	

Sandy Morgan	Sandy displays utmost integrity in her vital work as executive assistant to the senior vice provost for academic affairs. As a member of the academic affairs team, I am able to go to Sandy with any professional issue, at any time, knowing that she will be honest and trustworthy in her response. Sandy is the cohesive factor in the academic affairs team, enabling us to function at a high performing level in an environment of trust. Thank you!
5/7/20	
Submitted by: Andrew Arroyo	

Rachel Gable	Rachel is one of the most competent, versatile and service oriented professionals I have worked with in higher education. Among her many other contributions to VCU, she is highly responsive to her academic affairs teammates. There is almost no successful project in my portfolio that Rachel has not contributed to either directly or indirectly. I know the same holds true for my colleagues. Thank you!
5/7/20	
Submitted by: Andrew Arroyo	

Veronica Shuford	Veronica has shown incredible initiative in her work as SCHEV liaison during this COVID-19 pandemic. Kudos to Veronica for maintaining poise and positivity while working remotely with VCU stakeholders and SCHEV staff to keep program development activities moving forward.
5/7/20	
Submitted by: Andrew Arroyo	

Jennifer Elswick	In a university in which faculty & staff often complain of being overworked, Jen could be near the top of the list. Her job as webmaster for the entire CHS could easily be a multi-person job, especially now as we're moving so many events online. However, Jen not only doesn't complain, she maintains a positive attitude while responding quickly, patiently & efficiently to help resolve all of our issues. We so much appreciate her overall ability to help without judgment.
5/7/20	
Submitted by: Jo Murphy	

David Morefield	David Morefield, Zoom King, is literally keeping the business of the university going. Thank you, David, for keeping us all up to date, for making sure Zoom is accessible and running and as easy to use as possible for all of us who never imagined we'd be conducting almost all of our in-person jobs on this platform. You're the hero of this era of VCU!
5/6/20	
Submitted by: Lydia Klinger	

Kenneth Warren	During the past several months, Dr. Warren has gone above and beyond to help faculty respond to the challenges the move to online has created. From filming and editing last minute videos for graduation to responding quickly to blackboard questions, he has enabled the success of the transition for many SOM faculty.
5/1/20	
Submitted by: Katherine Henderson	

Talia Anderson	Talia has been a great help throughout the year. She is always professional, courteous, and responds to my requests almost immediately. In the last few weeks, she has been instrumental in helping ensure the SOE's summer semester applications are complete and ready for review by the program coordinators, specifically those applications affiliated with the RTR group (formerly Richmond Teacher Residency).
5/1/20	
Submitted by: Sandra Mazzoli	

Amy Andres	I am truly grateful for Ms. Andres' collaborative leadership style, sense of calm, and grace in such an unprecedented time. Because of her unflagging leadership, the VCUarts Qatar Libraries team has continued to perform and deliver outstanding work to our campus community. She has maintained consistent, high energy as well as a proactive and positive attitude, strengthening and uplifting our team. In such uncertain times, Ms. Andres -- backed up by evidence of performance -continues to be an inspiring VCUarts Qatar campus leader
5/1/20	
Submitted by: Jacquelyn Williams	

Danielle Pearle	Thank you for being an amazing leader! We all appreciate the hard work you put into supporting us and keeping our EED team strong. You always hear us, you are always willing to hustle for us, and we can
5/1/20	

Submitted by: Ash Taylor-Beierl		always rely on your wisdom and expertise to guide us to success, even as we navigate this difficult time. Thank you for your excellent guidance, support, and leadership.
Michelle Adcock		Michelle has gone above and beyond by compiling the work of the Events Task Force to present to the Massey Advisory Board; by coordinating the Massey Alliance Lunch and Advocacy event on May 19; by coordinating and sharing updates with the Massey Advisory Board, the Massey Alliance, and the Massey Development staff throughout the COVID-19 situation. Michelle has kept our spirits up and found ways to stay focused while finding the humor and bright side. She is juggling a lot and makes it look effortless.
5/1/20		
Submitted by: Patti Jackson		
Amy Miller		Thank you Amy for all your hard work over the past few weeks! You have been responsive to students/faculty/staff and have gone above and beyond so many times. Thank you for your initiative in creating the returnee website and for always being positive and encouraging. Our team so appreciates you and I know your students do too!
5/1/20		
Submitted by: Sarah Carrier		
Dana Regusters		As a supervisor, I am very lucky to say that I deeply admire Dana. Her thoughtfulness and care for her colleagues and students unrivaled. She has a natural gift for looking at problems from a macro perspective and developing a plan for ways to streamline processes to serve others more efficiently. Dana is an incredibly valued member of our team!
5/1/20		
Submitted by: Sarah Burton-Everette		

Katelynn Jarrells	As a double alumna of the VCU School of Social Work, Katelynn is constantly seeking ways to better support her students and to aid the SSW in meeting student needs in an ever-changing landscape. In spite of the challenges Covid-19 has thrown our way, Katelynn continues to show up for her students and connect them to the resources they need to persevere through the crisis.
5/1/20	
Submitted by: Sarah Burton-Everette	
Joanna Pinto-Coelho	Joanna joined our team in October and hit the ground running! She has a wealth of knowledge and creative ideas for ways to connect with students that will make developing their writing skills seem like a less daunting challenge. She is warm, approachable, and passionate about empowering students to succeed. We are so lucky to have her on the team!
5/1/20	
Submitted by: Sarah Burton-Everette	
Madison Woodroof	Madison is still in her first year of working with the School of Social Work, and she has navigated our constantly changing landscape with professionalism and an excellent sense of humor! She asks excellent questions that help us to form new ideas on the best ways to meet the needs of our students both in times of crisis and pre-crisis. She is a valued member of our team!
5/1/20	
Submitted by: Sarah Burton-Everette	
Jake Branigan	During this time of crisis, Jake has expertly navigated meeting the needs of current students as well as his incoming freshman and transfer students. Jake has a gift for strategy and organization, and his feedback on ways we can streamline processes has been invaluable to the BSW program. We are so happy to have him as a part of the team!
5/1/20	
Submitted by: Sarah Burton-Everette	

Sarah Carrier	Sarah has stepped in as acting director of Education Abroad during an unprecedented and ever-changing time. This has required quick action, responsiveness to students in need, and effectively leading a team of study abroad advisors. Sarah has been efficient and extraordinarily helpful, and always has a “can do” spirit, even under the most challenging circumstances. She deserves recognition—not for a single act—but for nearly 7 weeks of leadership during the COVID disruption.
4/3/20	
Submitted by: Jill Blondin	

April

Lindsay Freeman	Lindsay has always been quick to respond and thorough in her response. For one of my teaching candidates, she did a deep dive into what she was enrolled in for Summer and sought after an override in a course the student needed. It was not her student, but the way she handled the situation showed her care and concern for student progression & success. This is typical for Lindsay- typical, amazing care for VCU students and clear, quick support for colleagues.
4/30/20	
Submitted by: Brianne Morrison	

Lindsay Freeman	Lindsay has always been quick to respond and thorough in her response. For one of my teaching candidates, she did a deep dive into what she was enrolled in for Summer and sought after an override in a course the student needed. It was not her student, but the way she handled the situation showed her care and concern for student progression & success. This is typical for Lindsay- typical, amazing care for VCU students and clear, quick support for colleagues.
4/30/20	
Submitted by: Brianne Morrison	

Levi Walter	I wish I could check all four for Levi. Levi is the most amazing person to work with. I always look forward to seeing them. They do their job with such heart, and it's obvious that they really care about the faculty, students and other staff that they interact with. Levi is VCU's hidden gem!
4/30/20	
Submitted by: Liz Canfield	

Mia Williams	Mia and her team have done an exceptional job with the student refunds. They have worked so hard and accomplished so much. Great Job.
4/30/20	
Submitted by: Barbara Kidd	

Tom Woodward	I had an idea for a website and Tom made it come to life! The university is in a time of flux and I can imagine that everyone who supports technology services would be swamped. Even with Tom's work, I'm sure doubling, he took the time out to support me and my website project. I know that it is a part of the ALT Labs mission to support faculty but Tom went above and beyond; His kindness is what touched me the most. I asked a tremendous amount of questions, some times back to back over email, and he was patient, kind, and never made me feel like I had asked a dumb question. His responsiveness to the needs of faculty is remarkable but on top of that his ability to break down complex syntax to make it meaningful was amazing. Today we met virtually for the first time as he walked me through the website, again being patient and kind as he answered my questions and thought through problems with me. I just want him to know that his collaborative spirit and overall kindness and generosity means so much to me as a faculty member. Thank you, you are appreciated!
4/30/20	
Submitted by: Kaprea Johnson	

Amanda Hall	Amanda is a champion for the SOE and community engaged research. As a newer faculty member at VCU, I wasn't aware of all of the great resources available to faculty and students interested in community engaged research. With all that is going on and everyone's work load doubling, Amanda took the time this morning to provide a thorough review of all of the great opportunities that The Center for Community Engagement and Impact, offers faculty, students, and the community. Being at such a large university, like VCU, I have felt a bit isolated at times when trying to find collaborators and my "research community". This meeting with Amanda, which she probably doesn't know, WAS EXACTLY what I needed at the moment. She explained all of the programming, ways to get connected, and she noted that I had found my "research community". It was probably 1 meeting I'm sure on her packed schedule, but it was more than that for me. I am truly appreciative of the time spent and the welcome into the engaged research community. It's amazing how one conversation can make you feel connected and inspired. I just wanted to say Thank you Amanda for taking the time out to introduce me to everything the SOE and the center for community engagement and impact, has to offer! You are appreciated!
4/30/20	
Submitted by: Kaprea Johnson	
Jessica Abernathy	Jessica is a responsive, proactive colleague who is also very student-centered. This is evidenced in the work that she has done to process more than 450 reimbursements for study abroad and international students who have been impacted by the COVID-19 disruption (residence hall reimbursement as well as reimbursements for spring study abroad
4/30/20	
Submitted by: Jill Blondin	

	students who had to return to the United States, etc.). Jessica has done this work efficiently and always with the student in mind. Additionally, Jessica was instrumental in the transition of GEO to telework. She quickly assisted all of her GEO colleagues in making sure that they had the appropriate equipment and software to complete their tasks and projects remotely. For all of these reasons, I want to recognize Jessica.
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Sarah Burton-Everette	Sarah is an amazing colleague who is always so thoughtful, conscientious, and on top of everything. Despite the many challenges of COVID, including working with her active toddler next to each day, she is always present and responsive to the ever-changing landscape. I truly admire her unflagging spirit and warmth that she gives to each and every person.
4/29/20	
Submitted by: Casey Jensen	

Levi Walter	Truly, I could recognize you for every interaction we've ever had, on the basis of initiative, integrity, respect, and responsiveness. You go above and beyond for us and you are definitely not taken for granted. We appreciate you! Thank you!
4/29/20	
Submitted by: Bee Coston	

Tim Davey	Tim Davey, has been my mentor and supervisor during my role as a provost's faculty fellow over this last year. My recognition is for responsiveness because we can only choose one category but Tim should be recognized for integrity, initiative, and respect. He is amazing! In his role, he has many task related to the transition that VCU is currently in, which takes a lot of time. Even though he has many prior responsibilities, and lots of new task, he still makes time to meet with me weekly for our mentorship meetings and I
4/29/20	
Submitted by: Kaprea Johnson	

	am truly thankful. At a time like this, he could have easily canceled all of our early morning meetings, to give himself a break or time to manage other more important business, but he prioritized our relationship and the work that we do to support VCU and to that I am forever grateful. He truly is an amazing human being and I feel blessed that I was paired with him for the faculty fellow opportunity. He deserves this recognition and so much more. Thank you Tim for all that you do, you are appreciated.
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Katherine Falls	Kathie continually finds ways to help our NP students at RHWP! She is always ready to help, always positive, and always creative and student-focused.
4/28/20	
Submitted by: Carla Nye	

Ramont Reed	I am teleworking and a computer virus acquired when I was logged into my VCU Chrome browser almost shut me down --Ramont spent an hour on the phone with me cleaning the computer up, then finding a workaround for me in the meantime. Wow -- that is dedication, skill, and customer service. Thank you, Ramont -- you and the team at HASTech are a VCU treasure.
4/28/20	
Submitted by: Karen Rader	

Erin McClinton	I am recognizing Erin for being responsive, respectful, and kind. Throughout this transition she has been amazing in meeting the needs of everyone in the SOE. Even when emailing after hours or on the weekend to ask a clarifying question Erin answers. Most recently she suggested an initiative that is so simple but so meaningful - the idea was that we all identify people to "check-in" on
4/28/20	
Submitted by: Kaprea Johnson	

	during this time of social distancing. I was so moved by how selfless she is, because I know she is swamped. There is always a lot going on in the SOE and she is impacted just as much as anyone else, but one thing on her mind was making others feel better. I just appreciate her for always being there, being so kind and thoughtful.... Thanks Erin for being you, it is appreciated!
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Kevin Bailey	Kevin operates as an admissions specialist with the highest standards of integrity. I cannot thank him enough for being a beacon of "doing the right thing"! He upholds the high standards in admissions, and makes VCU proud!
4/28/20	
Submitted by: Carla Nye	

Dana Regusters	Dana has gone above and beyond so much throughout this year. Watching her interact with our incoming students at a Getting Ready Live Session highlighted what I see her do every day. Her kind and thoughtful approach with students keeps our students engaged and looking forward to graduate school. In a time where her student load is increasing and student anxiety is at an all-time high, she stays calm, collected, and compassionate to all those around her.
4/27/20	
Submitted by: Casey Jensen	

Tiffany Freitas	Since this pandemic crisis began, Tiffany has really stepped up with positive, responsive, and helpfulness. As a member of the Center for Teaching and Learning Excellence, her commitment to faculty support and ability to stay flexible has made a huge difference for people. Kudos!
4/27/20	
Submitted by: Kim Case	

Cinzia Corubolo	I want to recognize Cinzia Corubolo for all the hard work she does to support her
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4/26/20	students. She does an amazing job and is always ready and able to step in to cover a course. She is passionate about teaching and does all she can to make sure our students do their best.
Submitted by: Mark Wood	

Akiliah McKelvey	Akiliah always goes above and beyond any time I have asked for any help on something. Sometimes I like to just get her professional opinion on a project or problem that needs to be solved. She always tries to find ways to make things more efficient and she offers ideas that I would not have thought about. Her approach is thorough and I truly appreciate everything she does for our office. She helped me with a task recently and took it a step further to allow me to build a query to pull data on a regular basis related to the task I was working on. She is a great asset to the office and university!
4/22/20	
Submitted by: Ashley Brown	

Crystal Wade	Ms. Wade is one of my primary contacts in the graduate admissions office. She has worked closely with me to ensure a recent influx of applications for one of the School of Education's programs were processed in less than a week! This allowed these new students to register for their Summer 2020 classes. She truly went above and beyond! Thank you Crystal!
4/22/20	
Submitted by: Sandra Mazzoli	

Lauren Jackson	In March, Lauren was quick to approach the challenge of working from home and the online setting. Within 3 days, she had set up a creative approach to advising programming, "Advising After Dark." This group model provided students a sense of belonging during a time of crisis and confusion. Following her successful program, she shared this idea with our team of first-year academic advisors.
4/21/20	
Submitted by: Betsy Seymour	

	Lauren set the standard and the rest of the team followed, sharing new opportunities for connection with their collective population of nearly 1700 students. Since that time and with Lauren's model in mind, members of our team have provided for their students video tutorials, group advising, registration workshops, tours of their home offices, check-in forms, and other experimental methods that cut down on email messaging and help students feel a sense of connection to "their person" at VCU.
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Rochelle Upshur	Rochelle has taken on the task of heading up the committee to move our Rammy's award ceremony online. She has researched different ways to highlight our students accomplishments throughout the year while also celebrating our graduates. She has been very timely and organized throughout the whole process. Everyone has been heard and all ideas have been shared equally. Her true care for these students shines through not only in the office but virtually as well. She wants these students to genuinely feel that we appreciate their hard work, and celebrate their successes.
4/21/20	
Submitted by: Kelly Kitchen	

Adam Percy	Dr. Percy has been a great team member in the BAL as a first- year post-doctoral fellow. He has faced many challenging projects in the lab and approaches all of them with a great attitude, work ethic, and critical thinker. Happy to have him in the BAL at VCU SoP!
4/21/20	
Submitted by: Matt Halquist	

Joan Rhodes	Joan Rhodes is an encourager and each day shares words of appreciation and support to the department. I look forward to the daily cartoon, video, or song in my inbox which makes me smile. Earlier this
4/21/20	

Submitted by: Lisa Cipolletti	week there were conversations regarding scheduling, and Joan quickly organized a meeting so that each person's voice could be heard and to allow for collaboration. This meeting was at the end of her already busy day. I am so appreciative of her leadership during this uncertain time. I know that I have her full support, and I am very thankful for that.
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Pam Stephenson	Pam is one of the most important people in our department. She works tirelessly to make sure that things stay in order, especially when it comes to admissions. She has always done this, but recently her hard work has become even more evident. She has made sure that the transition to interviewing students after mandatory telecommuting has occurred seamlessly. Faculty always have everything that is needed due to her diligence. Without her and her hard work this would not be possible.
4/21/20	
Submitted by: Melissa Jamerson	

Terry L. Austin	Terry Austin has done an outstanding job keeping faculty informed through this unprecedented time. Dr. Austin makes himself available to all and is very responsive to questions, comments, and concerns. He is to be commended for his outstanding leadership.
4/21/20	
Submitted by: Philip Duane Coston	

Tim Aro	Tim has provided the institutional clinical research program(s) invaluable informatics assistance in development and responsiveness to institutional requests regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. Tim has worked tirelessly, off-hours, and weekends to fulfill these requests, and repeated requests for database modifications following initial development.
4/21/20	
Submitted by: Shirley Helm	

Laure Ray	Laure has taken great initiative during this time to manage revisions of our procedures, report writing, ordering, and setting up for future projects when our lab opens soon! Thankful to have her a part of a great team at VCU in the BAL!
4/20/20	
Submitted by: Matt Halquist	

Elise Kepus	Elise has maintained clear and transparent communication, promoted collaborative work, and has ensured that her staff feel safe, respected, and a part of something larger than ourselves.
4/17/20	
Submitted by: Carolina Wilson	

Jingmei Song	I've worked with Emily (Jingmei) over the last couple of weeks on an urgent need of my team but for which I had no knowledge of how to obtain what I needed. Emily was kind, patient, super responsive, and beyond helpful during a time when I know her department is stretched to the limit.
4/17/20	
Submitted by: Sarah Reves	

Malorie Burkett	Malorie has done an incredible job, starting in a pandemic, and has been a wonderful colleague!
4/17/20	
Submitted by: Trevor Worden	

Greg Prince	Greg has navigated these trying times in philanthropy expertly. He is still closing major gifts, reaching out to our top donors, and maintaining relationships. Greg has been a real model for the rest of the university to follow and appreciate.
4/17/20	
Submitted by: Trevor Worden	

Beth Ayers	Beth has done an incredible job responding to the College's changing
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4/17/20	needs. Working in this difficult time is a challenge, and Beth has continued her work effortlessly. She is a wonderful colleague.
Submitted by: Trevor Worden	

Martha Harper	Martha is an academic advisor in University College. During her outreach to a case referral that came in on one of her students who was struggling with remote learning and personal finance, she learned that the individual was eligible for social security benefits (due to age) - but the student was not aware of their eligibility. For the past 10 days she has been working with him to apply for social security benefits - which has included helping him secure a credit report, completing online applications during weekend hours, and she holds video meetings with him weekly to also help him complete homework assignments in one of his courses that he potentially could fail - just to ensure he finishes this semester and graduates. She has gone above and beyond and continues to do so!
4/17/20	
Submitted by: Maggie Tolan	

Sterling Hundley	Sterling has started an online server to connect artists / creators with medical faculty / professionals, allowing cross-talk and alignment of resources between disciplines on such topics as gowns, masks, and other PPE.
4/16/20	
Submitted by: Jason Bennett	

Jon Philip Sheridan	I am humbled by Jon's marshaling of artists across the city in mask-making efforts. He has set a perfect example for all of us at VCU and the following quote (from the VCU News article posted 4/15) should be required reading for all: "Artists are fundamentally makers and flexible creative problem-solvers. Learning to
4/15/20	
Submitted by: Michael Lease	

	make art is learning to create solutions with limited resources. We are exceptional at teaching ourselves new skills, and learning to use new materials. [We also know how to] activate social economies: If I don't know how to do something, I have a network of artist friends who can teach me how, or who will do it for me."
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Terrence Walker	Terrence has been instrumental in making sure that the department (UCS) clinicians and administrative staff are supplied with the necessary tools to be efficient in our new work environment. He never hesitates to be the point person going the extra mile for the team to care for the needs by going above and beyond, respectfully and deliberately without hesitation. I confidently speak on behalf of the team, to recognize Terrence Walker for all of his efforts during VCU-UCS Work from Home, "new normal". He has been flexible, accommodating, and considerate of our needs through the storm, as we travel through this journey. Just a note of thanks to my fellow teammate.
4/15/20	
Submitted by: Tanya White	

Claire Pickering	Claire represents what it means to be a good nurse. She practices based on evidence and safety. Claire also regularly precepts new nurses, teaching them bone marrow skills, hallmarking how important it is to protect our patients.
4/15/20	
Submitted by: Lillian Facka	

Laura Foy	Laura truly stepped up to lead the Wilder School's first Staff Awards committee. She kept our meetings focused and organized while maintaining a positive and motivating attitude! Her leadership was crucial in the awarding of our school's first Staff Awards.
4/13/20	
Submitted by: Ashley Harrison	

Kathy Naneyshvili	Kathy went above and beyond in each of the categories listed above. She has been helpful, responsive, and taken on a great deal of responsibility. She has taken initiative and worked with the IT department to help coordinate aspects of the "virtual" graduation ceremony for the School of Medicine. She always has a friendly face and is quick to help. She is a true joy to work with.
4/13/20	
Submitted by: Heather Davison	

Jessica Carey	Jessica went out of her way to help on-board two new employees when the HR Manager from another department was out of the office unexpectedly. She contacted both new employees, guided them through the on-boarding process, completed the required paperwork and ensured both employees had everything they needed to get started on the right foot. Her willingness to help was so appreciated! Thank you for the extra effort, Jessica!
4/10/20	
Submitted by: Meredith Lane	

Peter Jordan	Peter Jordan, although he is working remotely, has been extremely responsive to his team. Most of his staff are considered essential, and as a result, he cannot always have face to face contact with them. Peter goes above and beyond to ensure his team has what they need to get their jobs done. He provides support by making sure they have enough protective equipment so they remain safe during the crisis. Peter is well respected by his team, because he leads by example.
4/9/20	
Submitted by: Bernard Adam	

Barry Lanneau	HR had to create a process very quickly to help capture information for the hiring freeze exception process. Barry worked with us (literally day and night) to make it happen. He was incredibly responsive,
4/9/20	

Submitted by: Carol Ann Lawson	patient to the constant changes, intuitive about what help might be needed - overall, he could not have been better to work with. This was such a time sensitive and stressful project, and Barry was there for all the rapid turnarounds and changes that I continued to arise. We are appreciative of all his time, efforts, and patience. I know he was also balancing this on top of other very time sensitive priorities.
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Jesse MacLelland	As a result of having to work from home, our department was unprepared to meet that challenge. We did not have the equipment or technology in place to get started. Jesse spent many hours working with telecommunications and his team to ensure we were prepared. As a result of his willingness to go above and beyond, our team is working effectively remotely. His desire to see a cohesive team has made our lives so much easier during this crisis.
4/8/20	
Submitted by: Bernard Adam	

Joan Rhodes	Joan is the Chair for the Department of Teaching and Learning. She is sending daily positive messages. Her dedication and support for her department has been unwavering. We are so fortunate to have Joan as our leader.
4/8/20	
Submitted by: Misti Mueller	

Melanie Wiggins	Melanie Wiggins has personally reviewed and shepherded through every industry contract for COVID19 clinical trial therapies that have been in the new therapeutics pipeline at VCU. She has worked on weekends, after hours, and before hours and participated in daily 'huddles' to monitor the activation status of these trials where priorities can change daily based upon population needs. Thank you, Melanie, for being a great team
4/4/20	
Submitted by: Lisa Ballance	

	leader, lending your experience and talents so generously, and for being a trusted collaborator across the enterprise.
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Cait Burns	Cait did a fantastic job taking initiative in creating virtual workshops to continue engaging the School of Business students and VCU community. It was a quick turn-around, and the end products were informative, relevant, and encouraging. Cait remains calm under pressure, and extends so much grace to her colleagues. She is truly admirable.
4/4/20	
Submitted by: Britni Purcell	

Karen Gau	In my role as the library liaison to the VCU School of Nursing and the nurses of VCU Health, I receive questions on an array of topics. Many of these questions are based on the use of library resources and what is in the library collection. In the last several weeks, Karen has been instrumental in ensuring that those I assist have been able to get access to what they need. She has done this by purchasing an unlimited license for an e-book and adding a resource to the library collection. Her attention to detail and willingness to problem-solve is appreciated. I truly value her as a library colleague. She makes my job easier and I just wanted to let her know that I appreciate her continued assistance with collections issues. Thank you for all of your help!
4/3/20	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

March

Sam Ray	Sam responded to my request to move the appeals process for teacher preparation online to meet student needs and current circumstances (with COVID 19). Although she was very busy, she still made time to
3/23/20	

Submitted by: Brianne Morrison	do it. It went above expectations of her position and I thank her so much for doing so. This has helped my work with my students and my student's experience so much better. THANK YOU!
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Vicki Humphreys	Vicki has been a consistently reliable leader of our Family Medicine and Population Health's Administrative Team during the university's transition to teleworking. Under her guidance we have been able to continue our department's operations without missing a beat. She has ensured that we have all of the hardware and software required and her continuously calming online presence has kept our team unified and uplifted.
3/23/20	
Submitted by: Deidre Henley	

Kat Wilson	Kat has done a wonderful job keeping us all in the PAPR department informed and afloat during the transition to remote working and teaching. Thank you Kat!
3/23/20	
Submitted by: Brooke Inman	

Jennifer Johnson	Throughout VCU's response to the Covid 19 crisis, Jennifer has been available, responsive and a wonderful leader for our department. As an adjunct, the level of support that has been provided to me has been absolutely essential in enabling me to continue to teach my classes. In the beginning of this crisis, she seemed to be "always there". She continues to communicate with us regularly and does her best to ensure that we are able to do our jobs in an unprecedented situation. I have always felt supported, appreciated and through her leadership, I have learned new ways to connect with and teach my students. As an instructor for 30 years, I must say that this has been the most
3/20/20	
Submitted by: Diana Gay Cutchin	

	difficult thing I have experienced in my teaching career; but Jennifer has been my champion, advisor and role model.
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Lauren Bailey	Lauren assisted VCU Health and Physical Plant in converting the Honors Dorm to I-2 Occupancy for use as a hospital. She worked long hours including weekends to assist in this emergency project. She also had to deal with a health emergency in her family during this time. In this time of crisis, Lauren rose to the occasion and embodied the "Make it Amazing" spirit of VCU Administration.
3/20/20	
Submitted by: Keith Van Inwegen	

Joe Bower	I put in a work order for an HVAC problem that occurred in the dental school. Joe Bower and another repairman (I'm sorry that I didn't get his name) came out and fixed the problem a short time later. I'm not commenting because there was nothing special that happened this time. In fact, it's the opposite--I'm commenting because this work order was handled just like every other HVAC work order I submit in that it was fixed without any further effort on my part. It made me realize how lucky we are to have service that we can count on every time, and I wanted to say how much I appreciate Joe and his co-workers for their responsiveness, reliability, and expertise.
3/19/20	
Submitted by: Todd Kitten	

Rico Jones	I just wanted to acknowledge the assistance of Rico Jones. I was informed on Sunday evening 03/15/2020 that my department would be working remotely. Even though we were made aware of the possibility on Friday 03/13/2020 I did not complete the VPN download because of unsuccessful attempts. I contacted Technology Services around 9 pm on Sunday night and Rico Jones was very
3/19/20	
Submitted by: Robert Wilson	

	patient with me and helpful while trying to work through the process even while I was dealing with phone calls and emails from my department. VCU has some great employees and Rico Jones is definitely one of them.
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Barry Lanneau	I submitted a ticket to Tech Services for assistance with ImageNow. Barry called and remote into my computer. He took me step by step through the process and explained everything he was doing and why. I really appreciated the time he took to make me feel as if I knew what he was talking about. He was so nice about it. Without going into a lot of details, Barry also helped me with Avaya and Google Hangout videos. He was so patient throughout the entire call. Before this call, I was a little stressed about technically doing my job. After the call, I felt confident. Barry not only helped me with my request but went over and beyond by helping me with other options so that I can successfully complete my tasks remotely. Thank you so much Barry for your outstanding customer service!
3/18/20	
Submitted by: Sheila Baker	

Jamey Lovin	From the beginning, Jamey gave so much of her time and effort to help others in the department move to online teaching. She was part of the Blackboard session - but moreover held one-on-one hours with faculty (tenure-track, instructors, adjuncts) to personally help them move their course online and showed patience while doing so. All while she had four classes moving online herself. I'm sure there are a multitude of other things she has done to help people in the dept with this shift that I'm not even aware of. She's an MVP of the pandemic.
3/18/20	
Submitted by: Rani Satyam	

Tim Aro	Tim Aro applied his knowledge of REDCap over a weekend to create a system for developing a classification system and ensuring justification and approval of human research activities that would continue in the midst of the COVID-19 epidemic. This classification and approval system quickly became a model shared with other academic institutions and will facilitate the process for ramping up clinical research at VCU and VCU Health when the time comes.
3/7/20	
Submitted by: Lisa Ballance	

Tim Siegel	This note of thank you and recognition is something I have been meaning to write over the last several months. In late October/ early November of 2019, a problem arose concerning library access for staff and participants in the VCU Health Dietetic Intern Program. This problem was particularly problematic because the program was preparing for an upcoming accreditation visit. When I brought this issue to Tim, he looked to find a solution right away. The solution was not an easy one and had him reaching out to members of VCU Health IT to determine the cause of the issue. This effort took several days and he was good about providing regular updates. Access to library resources for the program was restored before the accreditation visit and helped it to go smoothly. I just wanted to formally thank Tim for his assistance with solving this issue. His time and attention to finding a solution were appreciated.
3/3/20	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

Tim Hurley	Over the last several weeks I have had to call on Tim several times to answer questions about poster printing by those who work at VCU Health. In every instance, he has always been willing to help figure out how to best answer the
3/3/20	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

	questions or address the challenges members of the health system were having. This was especially true yesterday where he not only talked with me but also assisted a nurse who had additional questions when she called him. I appreciate his continued help and just wanted to formally thank him for all he has done to help me in fielding these various poster printing questions.
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Heather Brickley	Heather has been managing a chair search for our department, and she's getting it all done with patience, hard work, and a positive outlook! There are a lot of moving parts, many of which are confidential, and she is balancing them all with ease. A lot of work has to go on in the background for it to be so seamless for everyone involved in the process (and there are a lot of people involved!), and I know she has put my mind at ease many times during what is surely a stressful process. She is an awesome representative of SOM and VCU, and I feel so fortunate to work with her!
3/3/20	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

February

Jessica Kirschner	In my role as the library liaison to the VCU School of Nursing, I am tasked with having to assist people with many different types of questions. Over the last several months the school has had an increased focus on affordable course content. Without Jessica's past help and continued assistance with fielding these questions, I would not have been able to help the faculty and staff with their affordable course content questions. I wanted to thank her for her responsiveness and thoughtfulness as she helped me to address some of the challenges that come
2/27/20	
Submitted by: Roy Brown	

	with the issues around affordable course content. I appreciate her continued assistance and value her as a library colleague. Thank you for all your help!
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Patricia Murdock	While in the field I came across a network closet that wasn't opening after a successful card swipe. I sent an email to Patti and she responded within 5 minutes letting me know that she had someone headed my way to repair the door. The door access issue was repaired efficiently and a clear explanation was in my inbox by the time I returned to my desk. Patti's responsiveness to my reported issue was faster than anything I've ever experienced. Thank you Patti!
2/27/20	
Submitted by: Isac Crouch	

Alvin (Joe) Bower	Joe is always quick to respond to any hot/cold issues and displays extreme professionalism when responding to such calls. He is an important asset to Zone 300.
2/19/20	
Submitted by: Buddy Weston	

Jerred Daniels	Jerred has always responded quickly and with excessive professionalism to any issue that may arise at the School of Dentistry. He is an excellent asset to Zone 300.
2/19/20	
Submitted by: David Gressett	

January

Shane Conner & Jim Rosen	I had an issue with the Banner 9 Admin Pages development environment for almost two weeks and had been working with the vendor for multiple days. When I noticed that the application error mentioned CAS, I sent an email to Shane
1/16/20	

Submitted by: Deborah Baines	on the off chance that it would shake up a new lead for me to chase to resolve the issue. While Shane didn't have the answer, he mentioned he'd heard about a time sync issue that was similar to my application error statement and he forwarded my email on to the person who could provide the details. Jim Rosen quickly replied to my email and advised that there was one remaining server with a time issue. It was rebooted the next day and I'm back in Banner 9 Admin Pages development business! Thanks to the responsiveness of our VCU team, I hope to meet an important deadline for developing an extension necessary for the Ad Astra pilot group project. Thanks to both of you for your help!
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Michael Forder	One of our PhD courses was at a standstill due to the technical difficulties related to Blackboard update. Mr. Forder not only took the initiative to assist our faculty in moving their courses over into the new template, but also dropped everything he was working on when the instructor and students of this particular class were unable to access the blackboard during their on-campus session. His responsiveness to the situation minimized frustration and we were able to keep the in-person class going in a timely manner.
1/9/20	
Submitted by: Laurretta Cathers	

2019

December

Edward Lichtenstein	Joe (Edward) spent countless hours over the entire winter holiday break working on Blackboard system issues and handling support tickets.
12/23/2019	

Submitted by: Jamillah Martin	
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Rebecca Lester Scholtes	Rebecca and the rest of the P3 team worked very hard to enroll and complete active participants in the last weeks of the winter semester. I was very impressed with her efforts and initiative in this respect.
12/20/2019	
Submitted by: Carolina Cobb (Amey)	

Megan Underwood	Megan and the rest of the P3 team worked extremely hard during the last weeks of the winter semester to enroll and complete active participants in our study. I was very impressed by her efforts and initiative in this respect.
12/20/2019	
Submitted by: Carolina Cobb (Amey)	

Leetah Stanley	Leetah is an absolute pleasure to work with! She has worked tirelessly on a reporting project to make information accessible and understandable to people who are not experts in the topic at hand, and I know that took a lot of ingenuity, creativity, frustration, and time on her part to get it just right. She listened to a lot of input regarding what was needed for the reports, and I'm sure at times it must have seemed like she was asked to figure out things that didn't have a solution. But you would never have known that in talking with her, as she was always receptive to suggestions and feedback. Now that the reports are ready to go, she has answered questions and offered guidance with patience, humor, and grace. She really makes things easy! Simply put, she is a wonderful colleague and a tremendous resource to SOM - thank you, Leetah!
12/19/2019	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Leetah Stanley	I have had the pleasure of working with Leetah on rolling out departmental reports for the School of Medicine and VCU Health. This was a massive project, requiring an inestimable amount of forethought, relationship building, and countless hours of hard work. I can't say enough good things about working with Leetah and the degree of excellence she brings to our stewardship efforts. I feel that Leetah has gone above and beyond to set us up for success, and I'm very lucky to work with her!
12/18/2019	
Submitted by: Michelle Holder	

Colin Drake	I am always happy when Colin is assigned a work request because he is quick to respond, communicates well and does quality work. Thanks for doing an excellent job Colin!
12/13/2019	
Submitted by: Bob Burgess	

November

Luis Coral	Luis responded successfully with initiative and grace to last-minute modifications of a request pursuant to a relatively new duty. I was impressed and grateful.
11/25/2019	
Submitted by: Nicholas Shipman	

Nickie Brandenburger	Nickie is a team player! I am ever thankful for her initiative to jump in and help in any way that she can. While we work on separate projects we also co-direct a team. She senses when the stress is on and has jumped in to assist wherever she can to help her colleagues and the team as a whole. It's the simple things that mean a great deal. Thanks, Nickie, for your initiative and energy! I'm grateful for your willingness to tackle the tough stuff
11/26/2019	
Submitted by: Flip Grey	

	collaboratively while offering words of wisdom that sets my mind at ease.
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Jackie Robinson-Brock	Jackie is an outstanding mentor! I wish I could check all of the recognition boxes and more. She is always responsive, reliable, supportive, encouraging, thoughtful and available. I have no idea how you do it, Jackie, but I am grateful to have you as a colleague and mentor. Thank you for always being there with thoughtful insight and guidance!
11/21/2019	
Submitted by: Flip Grey	

Patrice Beard	Patrice has taken on responsibility for a complex data system that 20 staff enter information into weekly. This requires that she constantly train staff, 'clean' data entry, run monthly reports to identify gaps in data collection, and more recently, correspond with the database contractor to problem solve customization of the database so it works better for reporting to our multitude of funders. Recently, Patrice has gone above and beyond her responsibilities to discuss and/or create workable solutions for a number of staff challenges with the database.
11/1/2019	
Submitted by: Dana Yarbrough	

Rob Downs	Rob and his team have been incredibly helpful in working with units to build the new acknowledgment reports in RADAR that were very much needed. They took the time to listen to every request, consider every possibility and made a system that works beautifully, filling the needs of both the units, in terms of functionality, and of Central, in terms of accurate record keeping etc. about the stewardship of gifts. Additionally, Rob dedicated even more time to us here at medicine to cooperate with our SOM IT group to give us what we needed to use a system developed to produce and archive
11/1/2019	
Submitted by: Leetah Stanley	

	our acknowledgement letters and to create our departmental gift reports so that our chairs can be engaged further in stewarding donors to their individual areas. This had long been the desire of Dean Buckley. The feedback from everyone over the initial report was beyond positive, and it simply would not have been possible without the cooperation of Rob and his team.
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October

Elizabeth Seward	It was very hard for me to decide on which one I wanted to recognize Elizabeth for, on the time I have met her she has showed Initiative on every aspect and curve ball thrown to our department, her experience and wealth of knowledge always came handy when it was time to determine a new route to take when things were changing, her initiative was displayed in so many ways weather it was for a brand new project or an ongoing project in which we may later on see possible issues, she showed integrity in everything she did, it was 110%. Her responsiveness was always exactly as that word is defined "the quality of reacting quickly and positively" even when things got tough she was always finding ways around the problem the most efficient way. Now the reason I chose Respect is because that really is the best way to describe how she should be recognized, all the qualities she has displayed has really made her a person I enjoyed working with. Its a privilege ,honor and honestly so fun to work with someone with so much knowledge and such willingness to teach the way she has.
10/25/2019	
Submitted by: Melanie Pilco	

September

Sha-Kim Craft	Sha-kim started with very little and built a graduate program tracking spreadsheet that is used school-wide. She consistently answers inquiries in a timely manner and has improved the overall graduate office by leaps and bounds. Thank you Sha-kim.
9/10/2019	
Submitted by: Warran Dawson	

Josh Ambrose	I put in an electrical ticket because our podium that controls all of our presentation equipment for presenters was getting no power. I initially thought it was an issue with electricity coming from the wall. Josh came over and found that wasn't the issue. He stayed to help me troubleshoot the piece of equipment in the podium (the power conditioner) that needed to be reset. He very easily could have said that his job was over after finding the problem was inside of the podium, but it was his kindness and responsiveness that helped me resolve the issue quickly for our customers. He is a wonderful asset to the university!
9/3/2019	
Submitted by: Sue McGinnis	

August

Kelly Winn	I needed information on our doctoral graduates, names of dissertations. We also asked for a list of capstone titles and EdD graduates since 2011. Kelly was very responsive in helping us to put this information together.
8/9/2019	
Submitted by: Charol Shakeshaft	

Keyetta Tate	Keyetta is always very proactive with her work and excels at responding to any question/problem/conflict we throw at her. She works for many different faculty members and somehow keeps it all straight. She should be commended for
8/9/2019	

Submitted by: Warran Dawson	the outstanding work ethic and overall effectiveness and efficiency. She certainly makes my job easier. Thank you Keyetta.
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Brenna Monk	Another member of our department and I have been working with Brenna to prepare for an event during the MCV Campus Reunion Weekend in April 2020. She is extremely responsive, very helpful and she offers guidance with patience and kindness. She has put our minds at ease on numerous occasions and simplified what at first seemed to be a somewhat overwhelming process. She is a pleasure to work with. We are grateful for her expertise and willingness to share it. Thank you, Brenna!
8/5/2019	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

July

Paul Allmon	Our department was recently asked to teach the power tool portion of a quick start program VCU is involved with. We were given very short notice with not much time to prepare the shop or ourselves for an appropriate lesson. Pauls previous experience in work programs that utilize and train beginner level trades workers made him first to mind to assist me in giving the lessons. Paul was very quick to take on the task. He studied the module and took notes on his own time at home the evening before and had an overall lesson planned on the morning we were scheduled to give class. Pauls excitement and attitude about the task, that many would decline, was infectious and engaging. Paul applies these same principles in his everyday workload at VCU and he is a valuable asset to our department.
7/19/2019	
Submitted by: Matthew Wilkes	

Jamie Holcomb	Jamie is always responsive and extremely timely to all of my requests. She is knowledgeable, helpful and takes the time to explain and route me to the correct information on the many VCU screens and portals. I truly appreciate that when I call she often answers her telephone line and she also returns phone calls quickly. Jamie is an asset to the VCU Office of Procurement. It's my pleasure working with her.
7/17/2019	
Submitted by: Danise Harmon	

June

Shane Conner	I would like to recognize Shane for always lending his expertise to help me troubleshoot and resolve technical issues that are particularly puzzling. An issue occurred early in the day and went unresolved after attempts by multiple areas until I reached out to Shane for guidance. I was unsure if the issue was something that fell under his purview, but knew he could at least point me in the right direction. Shane waved his magic wand and all was fixed! Shane's responsiveness to my issue was greatly appreciated not only by myself, but by other staff who were impacted by the issue.
6/28/2019	
Submitted by: Shelley Jordan	

Harris Middleton	To say that Harris is a team player is an understatement! We have had a few staff members with unavoidably unpredictable schedules in the past few weeks, and Harris has put everyone's mind at ease by filling in whenever and wherever needed. It was so seamless that I'm not sure others even noticed that anything was different! He is efficient, hard-working, professional, and kind, and all of these things make a huge difference in our department and division on a daily basis. It does not go
6/21/2019	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

	unnoticed every day, but it is especially evident during these sorts of weeks. Thank you, Harris!!
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Sharon Kelly	Sharon has been amazingly helpful to me over the past few weeks as I have been navigating ordering various things for an upcoming student session. No matter how many times I stop by her office or email her, she is always quick to help and never makes me feel like I am bothering her - even though she has been extremely busy working towards the end of the fiscal year.
6/13/2019	
Submitted by: Lauren Mortensen	

Morgan Huff	I have submitted an increased number of web requests to update the VCU homepage to be in complete WCAG 2.0, AA compliance. Recently, time sensitive updates have been requested and Morgan continues to be responsive and diligent to achieve resolutions. We really appreciate his efforts.
6/12/2019	
Submitted by: Corie Forest	

Reginald Brown	I am recognizing Reggie Brown for his outstanding assistance and knowledge in keeping things going. Our School is going through transition again regarding fiscal processes and Reggie has and does take the initiative to help complete various tasks and assignments, ask questions when needed, and always available. He always makes sure that all bases are covered in terms of details and is a team player. We are extremely lucky to have him. Thank you Reggie for all that you do.
6/10/2019	
Submitted by: Denise Harmon	

Orlante "Tonto" Duncan	Tonto is always welcoming and offers his assistance with anything I need. Tonto is always on the phone speaking to perspective students and he has an answer for everything. I can imagine being a student, wanting to get good information
6/5/2019	

Submitted by: Warran Dawson	as I navigate my way through college life. I call the VCU School of Pharmacy and hear a bright and sunny “Hello” when Tonto answers the phone, then answers all my questions, and then tells me to “Have a nice day!” He goes above and beyond to make sure everyone has a nice day.
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Melanie Pilco	I would like to recognize Melanie Pilco for her continued outstanding performance. Our department has been through a tough transition period and Melanie took a lot of initiative to find ways to help complete various tasks and assignments to help the department stay afloat. She is a creative thinker when it comes to problem solving. She always makes sure that all bases are covered in terms of details and she is a team player. I often look to her for opinions on how to complete certain tasks and the best way to approach situations. She has recently accepted a full time position within our department and we are extremely lucky to have her on board on a full time basis. Melanie truly represents what VCU is all about. She has a heart to help others and she is a true GEM!!! Thank you Melanie for all that you do. CSCC would not be the department it is without all of your contributions.
6/3/2019	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Seward	

Jean Scott	Jean went above and beyond getting a situation resolved for our post-doc so that she could check out a book at the library. Jean had to contact multiple folks in multiple departments and explain the situation in many ways, but she kept with it to achieve success. I'm not sure what we would have done without her! Jean displayed fantastic customer service and determination!
5/25/2019	
Submitted by: Sue McGinnis	

Rebecca Lester-Scholtes	Rebecca did an incredible job getting our laboratory/office move organized and completed in an efficient manner. She responded to move requests/tasks quickly and completed them to a high degree. She also put in additional effort/time to coordinate the delivery of sensitive data/equipment across several VCU locations! Couldn't have done it without her.
5/22/2019	
Submitted by: Caroline Cobb	

Bob Burgess	Bob did an incredible job making sure our move from Thurston House to CSTP/VCU Health Sciences Research Building went perfectly. He was incredibly responsive to our needs/concerns and everything went super smoothly under his command. We are thankful for his presence at the Psychology Department.
5/20/2019	
Submitted by: Caroline Cobb	

Claudia Street	Ms. Street has repeatedly gone above and beyond in her responsiveness to getting big jobs completed in a timely manner. Her respect, courtesy and overall professionalism should be recognized as she has provided exemplary service to the VCU School of Education throughout the years. I'm certain other areas of the university that have been fortunate enough to work with Ms. Street have experienced her excellent brand of service.
5/20/2019	
Submitted by: Reggie Brown	

Martha VanMeter	Martha is always helpful when a request is sent her way. An expense hit an NIH grant and the expense needed to be moved to another Index. She researched the expense and keyed the journal voucher within 30 minutes. This timely response resolved the issue efficiently and quickly. Martha and Nancy Fogg are terrific to work with and are an asset to Virginia Commonwealth University!
5/17/2019	
Submitted by: David Plunkett	

Shirley B. Farrar	Since the onset of my start date at VCU, Shirley has taken the initiative to be a mentor. She has given me suggestions, advice and assistance. I value having such a terrific co-worker and am appreciative of what she does. It's purely because she elects to do so. I certainly hope Shirley receives the recognition she deserves!
5/7/2019	
Submitted by: Andrea Perkins	

Jacqueline Glover	Each time I've reached out to Jackie, she's always been immediately responsive, helpful and wonderful! Today I spoke to her and once again her demeanor is refreshing and she perfectly assisted me with my concerns. I hope Jackie gets recognized for her outstanding services!
5/7/2019	
Submitted by: Andrea Perkins	

Jeanne Schroeder	Jeanne played a critical role as a Graphic Designer and Website Manager in the development of an online training course for Child Development (zero to three). The Child Development training reaches professionals in our state, nationally, and internationally. Jeanne's continual dedication to innovation guarantees the excellence of our training products.
4/30/2019	
Submitted by: Carrie Main	

Rhonda Pearson	Every day, Rhonda greets every person with a smile. She makes sure to make everyone feel acknowledged and welcomed. She is always kind and respectful. Several of us are nominating her together because we are grateful to walk into our building and see her everyday and we value what a difference she makes for our school.
4/25/2019	
Submitted by: Jo Robins	

Amanda Hall	I would like to acknowledge Dr. Amanda Hall for her tremendous drive, initiative, and support of the School of Education
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4/25/2019	and related activities. Certainly her work and actions have a wide ranging impact at VCU, across many departments, and with the whole community, but she goes above and beyond in helping the many programs and initiatives at School of Education succeed. Most recently, she has been instrumental in welcoming a group of visiting foreign students to campus and the city. This is no easy feat given her other professional and personal demands. She is always willing to help and go the extra mile for programs, events, and activities. Throughout all this work she exhibits a positive, "can do" attitude that really makes a difference. For all her work and dedication to the School of Education and VCU, I would like to say thank you, thank you, thank you. Your efforts are commendable and much appreciated!
Submitted by: Jose Alcaine	

Shirley Helm	Shirley Helm organized the details of the Inaugural Virginia Clinical Research Conference hosted by VCU on April 12, 2019 in addition to her other responsibilities. She had no prior 'event planning' experience but formulated a team, including the VCU Office of Continuing and Professional Education, which was lean, resourceful, and led to a highly successful event including attendees and speakers from across Virginia. Shirley had a vision and took the initiative to find the resources needed, early. She was realistic, optimistic, and clearly demonstrates a passion for VCU.
4/25/2019	
Submitted by: Lisa Ballance	

Jennifer Sisane	Jennifer Sisane has been working with a planning team from across the research enterprise in order to pull off the Inaugural Virginia Clinical Research Conference right here in Richmond. We had
4/25/2019	

Submitted by: Lisa Ballance	presenters and attendees from across the state, many of whom took the time to remark that the Office of Continuing and Professional Education (and specifically Jennifer) hosted a very well-coordinated event. Even before the event, we knew that our conference was in great hands with Jennifer. She is calm, capable, and has an eye toward efficiency and resource conservation.
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Jo Robins	Jo is constantly looking for positive ways to influence faculty and staff in the School of Nursing. She is so kind, thoughtful, and considerate that I consider myself very fortunate to work with her.
4/23/2019	
Submitted by: Sue McGinnis	

Tamara Zurakowski	Tamara exemplifies what it means to be a team player. She openly shares information and is responsive and facilitatory when information or guidance is requested. She consistently places high priority on helping others succeed.
4/17/2019	
Submitted by: Jo Robins	

Kody Wyatt	Mr. Wyatt provided excellent customer service and expert assistance when our office was experiencing computer issues recently. My colleagues and I were very impressed with Mr. Wyatt's amicable demeanor as well as his quick and efficient ability to multitask and repair all of our computer issues. His skillfulness and professionalism put us all at ease and left a wonderful impression. Thank you!
4/15/2019	
Submitted by: Shana Ryman	

Jeanine Giles Larson	We owe Jeanine a big thank you from Family Medicine! I had received a last-minute travel change/update request near the end of the day yesterday from
4/4/2019	

Submitted by: Harris Middleton	one of our research associates that needed immediate assistance to ensure that she would be able to complete a site visit that next morning. Jeanine was quick to respond and worked to provide a solution to help review and approve the travel needed to facilitate the site visit in time. Jeanine went above and beyond to help us and continues to be polite, professional and courteous to all members of the department and our colleagues whenever we are in need of assistance. Thank you, Jeanine!
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Hope Walker	Hope Walker was my colleague at Putney House and now has a new position at Massey Cancer Center. I wish I had known about the "Employee Recognition Form" earlier since I would have submitted it last year. Hope really possesses all characteristics within the recognition list and it is difficult selecting just one. Instantly when I started at Putney, Hope befriended me and wasn't just a coworker, but became my mentor on her own volition. We worked on separate floors for different supervisors, yet she always assisted me with any questions. In the midst of her busy schedule, plus working for two supervisors and dealing with her own deadlines, she was responsive to my phone calls, computer glitches, emails, general office questions, etc. She never hesitated to help and consistently replied to my inquiries in an expedited manner. On 3/18/19, I called Hope and she immediately responded by offering guidance on an office question that I knew she was familiar with; once again she continues to be an incredible mentor. I certainly Hope Walker receives the recognition that she deserves!
3/20/19	
Submitted by: Andrea Perkins	

Carol Ann Irby	Carol Ann was my supervisor and has received a promotion at VCU. She should be acknowledged for all of the recognition subcategories: initiative, integrity, respect, responsiveness. She has illustrated these traits on a daily basis! After Carol Ann started her new position, she attended a meeting on the MCV campus and decided to check on her replacement while she was nearby. She traveled to our building so they could 'catch up.' From my time working for Carol Ann Irby, I've seen that she exemplifies such extraordinary qualities in every aspect. I sincerely hope that she gets the recognition she deserves!
3/20/19	
Submitted by: Andrea Perkins	

Kayla Watts	Kayla has high moral standards, exemplifies nobility, and is sincere and genuine. Kayla demonstrates these qualities each day.
3/20/19	
Submitted by: Andrea Perkins	

February

Dana Rajczewski	Dana is one of the most professional and efficient individuals with whom I have had the pleasure of working. She always seems to find the answer and is the go to person when it comes to planning an event or finding a solution (from the smallest to the biggest challenge). She maintains an amicable demeanor and treats everyone with respect and kindness. Recently, she helped me find two spaces on campus for different events, in a pinch. She is an extraordinary VCU employee who contributes so much to our department, division, university and city!
2/11/19	
Submitted by: Dr. Anton Kuzel	

January

Carolyn Lee	Carolyn has been a tremendous resource during the VCU Staff Performance Evaluation cycle! She is very knowledgeable about the process and if there is something that she has been unsure of, she has worked with SOM and/or University HR to get an answer in a timely fashion. I think she's relieved quite a bit of anxiety that comes with a new way of doing things (including a new software system) and we are so lucky to have her in our department!
2/11/19	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Carrie Main	Carrie is awesome at project management and keeping our team informed of progress as an eLearning Specialist. She's always looking for new ways to improve the quality of the products we develop and is fantastic to work with!
1/23/19	
Submitted by: Jeanne Schroeder	

Marcus Mickle	This recognition is long overdue as Marcus has always been responsive, thorough, pleasant and professional. His recent work on the Student Services Center and Admissions non-degree online application project is the latest example of Marcus' exemplary work. His willingness to collaborate, attention to detail and generosity with his time were instrumental in getting this project up and running on time. He is a tremendous asset to this university.
1/1/19	
Submitted by: Lisa Dougherty	

2018**November**

Jessica Presley	For picking up on REDCap coding skills so quickly and getting all of those CPT measures entered, updated and working. Your dedication to this tedious and meticulous task is much appreciated!
11/19/18	
Submitted by: Caroline Cobb	

Lauren Mortensen	Always prepared and professional.
11/13/18	
Submitted by: Nora Alder	

Dawn Scott	Dawn is always responsive, respectful, has integrity and displays initiative. She makes things easy for us with grace and a sense of humor.
11/12/18	
Submitted by: Molly Dellinger-Wray	

Karen Mullins	Always quick and helpful.
11/12/18	
Submitted by: Nora Alder	

Sharon Jones	Sharon's devotion to getting the word out on how to use assistive technology led to the implementation of an AT Supports for Literacy Conference that was attended by over 100 educators and related service providers. Her knowledge and
11/9/18	

Submitted by: Jackie Neidle	perseverance should be recognized and congratulated.
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Kimberly Stevens	I had quite a fiasco trying to order donuts for an early morning Saturday workshop with families. Kim went to Krispy Kreme in the wee hours of the dark, cold morning in the rain to pre-pay for the order. She really takes care of the details everyday, not just this one.
11/3/18	
Submitted by: Molly Dellinger-Wray	

October

Lauren Mortensen	Ms. Mortensen's role is helping faculty and department chairs navigate the course and program development process, particularly those approvals that need to go through to seek SCHEV approval. Recently, we have met with some challenges with searching for original approvals so that updates can be made. Lauren has been diligent in searching for records, seeking clarification, and following up with a number of people at higher levels. Most recently, she was recognized as being a "problem-solver" extraordinaire. That is certainly an apt compliment, and epitomizes how she approaches every challenge that comes along. She is a pleasure to have on our team in the Dean's office.
10/31/18	
Submitted by: Colleen Thoma	

Sandra Mazzoli	Ms. Mazzoli was able to identify an admission process for a newly-identified cohort of students who are seeking admission to a certificate program in Spring, 2019. Despite the short turn-around time, she was able to work with faculty from the department to identify a process that could work for all, minimizing possible frustration for applicants and faculty. Her interactions
10/31/18	
Submitted by: Colleen Thoma	

	during that meeting represented the highest level of customer service, problem-solving and balancing that with university policies.
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Barbara Driver	Dr. Driver was successful in negotiating a contract with Henrico County Public Schools to develop a cohort of students in the department's certificate program in administration and supervision. This is not part of her typical work responsibilities and came as a result of both her commitment to addressing the needs of our surrounding school divisions and her ability to listen to their needs and identify a solution that works.
10/30/18	
Submitted by: Colleen Thoma	

Laura Domalik	I am recognizing Laura Domalik due to her continued respect of all colleagues and students. She goes above and beyond to help others each day. Her respectful comments of appreciation and encouragement to all employees including adjunct professors is always appreciated. She is always open to discussing any needs or answering questions about any guidance needed. Laura is a joy to work with.
10/29/18	
Submitted by: Jodi Larson	

Roy Brown	I contacted Roy in a panic when I had a major paper due with minimal research available. I hoped to get an appointment with him that day to complete my research, but his schedule was booked with other students' research questions. When our schedules didn't link up, Roy offered to use his own personal time that night to address my research questions. He asked me to email him the details and he would see what he could do. When he
10/16/18	
Submitted by: Nicole Evangelista	

	didn't hear from me in the next hour, Roy followed up with me to make sure I sent the info to the correct email address. Not only did Roy go above what was necessary to help me, he went beyond by following up with me when it only created extra work for him that night. This kindness made my once-panicked state more at ease. Roy's passion for what he does is inspiring.
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Sabrina Lumpkin	I would like to recognize and thank Sabrina for her continued help and support of projects and grants at the School of Education. During what I know are busy and hectic deadlines, she is always very helpful and responsive and tries to make our submissions the best they can be despite time constraints and challenging customers! This was the case in a recent deadline and I just wanted to say thanks for her efforts. My colleagues and I appreciate it very much.
10/16/18	
Submitted by: Jose Alcaine	

Mary Strawderman	I would like to recognize and thank Mary for all the help and support she and her colleagues at OSP provide for the School of Education. We cannot do our projects and grants without the great help of folks like Mary. She is always very helpful and responsive even when we may prove to be challenging or are under a looming deadline. Such was the case in a recent submission for a new colleague here at VCU. Needless to say, my colleague and I were very thankful for Mary's help. Thank you, thank you!
10/16/18	
Submitted by: Jose Alcaine	

Arnesha Avery	Arnesha has taken on several large tasks recently and has balanced the workload
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10/2/18	really well. She is a creative thinker when it comes to problem solving, and she always makes sure that all bases are covered in terms of details. She's a true team player, and she is someone I often look to for opinions on how to complete certain tasks. Thank you, Arnesha!!
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

Harris Middleton	Harris worked with a faculty member who was submitting a grant, and he figured out a solution that took a lot of deadline pressure off of the faculty member. He volunteered to help without a second thought, and he will likely serve as the department's resident expert about that particular topic. He was willing to do whatever it took to get the job done, and that freed up our faculty members to do other tasks under the deadline. Thank you, Harris!!
10/2/18	
Submitted by: Dana Rajczewski	

June Jones	I direct calls to June several times throughout the day. June is always receptive, poise, and professional. She never complains about the inundated calls. June simply says OK and puts forth her best effort to accommodate all callers. June's positive attitude makes the working environment a better place!
10/1/18	
Submitted by: Zakia Williams	

September

Ra'Meer Roberts	I am new to my position and started with vacant positions in my office. In addition, the Office Manager was going on leave for several weeks. Ra'Meer has been extremely helpful. He has assisted with several duties that the Office Manager is responsible for completing. He also has offered his assistance for any
9/14/18	
Submitted by: Greta Franklin	

	administrative processes. I truly appreciate his help and his positive attitude.
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Rochelle Jordan	I would like to recognize Shelley for her work helping the School of Dentistry transition to using DocuSign for Degree Candidacy. Shelley has been incredibly helpful, patient, and quick to respond to all our questions and issues. Thanks, Shelley!
9/7/18	
Submitted by: Jennifer Gay	

August

Deborah Baines	I submitted a double IT systems request to Deborah to update multiple student records in Banner under a time crunch. As her supervisor was on vacation, I reached out to her directly and she took on the request herself and helped guide me through the process. She was quick to reach out with thoughtful questions and even found an error in the document I gave her. She pushed the project through in record time and was positive and easy to work with. I thoroughly enjoyed working with Deborah and am incredibly appreciative of her hard work on this project for me. She even completed it before Tuesday's deadline.
8/27/18	
Submitted by: Sara Kohout	

Shane Conner	I wanted to take a minute to let you know what an outstanding employee you have in Shane Conner. He exemplifies professionalism and expertise whenever we communicate. I can call him with the most convoluted question and he will take the time to explain or guide me through the necessary steps to solve the issue at
8/23/18	
Submitted by: Shelley Jordan	

	hand (even if it is not necessarily his job to help me).
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Daniell Pearles	I had a request very last minute to pull data from a system that is no longer in existence at the university. The data request was quite immediate - with no time for delay. Danielle was responsive, kind and helpful. She was able to quickly pull the information and save the day! My interactions with her have always been positive. You are very fortunate to have her on your team.
8/8/18	
Submitted by: Sue McGinnis	

Learning Systems Team	The Learning Systems team worked with me for months on building my training modules! They were readily available to meet with me, provided several tutorials and arranged virtual meetings to accommodate my busy schedule. They were extremely knowledgeable of the applications and willing to go the extra mile to explore new ideas and processes!
8/1/18	
Submitted by: Amber Peranski	

July

Gregory Kimbrell	I want to recognize and thank Gregory for helping me and my VCU colleagues host a recent statewide conference (100+ in attendance) in the beautiful Cabell Library space. Gregory and his staff are always excellent, helpful, responsive, and friendly. Events are always a challenge to organize and coordinate. However, with Gregory, Emily, and others at Cabell, the mantra is always, "no problem," "we got it," and "all set!" I am so thankful to have such a great library and library colleagues. Thank you Gregory for making any meeting so easy and fun! Thank you for being such a
7/8/18	
Submitted by: Jose Alcaine	

	wonderful asset to VCU. I appreciate it very much.
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Curtis Sexton	Curtis has been a great addition to the School of Nursing! He is always pleasant and helpful. He went out of his way to retrofit a laptop cart out of another piece of equipment for the IT team. We really appreciate his assistance and positive attitude! Thank you, Curtis!
7/26/18	
Submitted by: Sue McGinnis	

Drew Barker	I wanted to recognize Drew for constantly being a great leader. He is checking with every single one of us on regular basis, making sure everything is going well, both on professional and personal levels. His interactions with us are not only limited to work related subjects. He can keep projects on track and speed things up when required, and in the same keep positive relationships with his employees. This is a very important quality in being good leader. Personally I would not mind to go "extra mile" for him, because I know he would do the same for me. He is respected and valuable coworker, and I wanted this to be known.
7/24/18	
Submitted by: Mariusz Ostasz	

Jay Bolling	Jay is always a welcoming and creative force of energy in our department. He goes the extra mile in responding to his duties and strives for new ways to problem solve on the job. His compassion is a huge motivating force to his team, and coworkers daily. Jay is a kind and knowledgeable asset and supervisor for our department!
7/20/18	
Submitted by: Kendra Jenkins	

Claudia Street	Claudia has gone above and beyond to provide a high level of customer service and professionalism for Academic Support. Our unit has gone through numerous space changes over the past few weeks. The quality of Claudia's work, along with her timeliness and strong communication, has helped our unit tremendously throughout the many changes. Please send my gratitude to Claudia, as her work has had a major and positive impact on Academic Support.
7/18/18	
Submitted by: Rachel Worthington	

Bryan Rowland	During the time of transition in my department, Bryan took the initiative to lend his expertise with the billing system. Bryan was a GREAT HELP for me and my department at this time. Bryan willingly sat with me and others as I learned the program that is used to send out our monthly bills, not once did he show a sign of me irritating him or bothering him. I would like to just say thank you, for your generosity, dedication and your knowledge in a time of need.
7/6/18	
Submitted by: Tarniki Boyd	

June

David Gray	There was a service request to fix our hot water problem. We have tried to resolve this issue several times. David came to me to get background information on the issue. He then informed me of his action plan after I formulated the history of the issue. David left to work on the issue and came back to me after 30 minutes with a very detailed explanation of the issue and how he resolved the issue. He also sent a detailed email as well. We now have hot water to properly sanitize. His professionalism, communication, and
6/29/18	
Submitted by: Steven George	

	resolution of the issue is deserving of recognition!
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May

Demmie Pennix	Demmie is a fantastic employee. She smiles and she is so polite. You can always count on Demmie for assistance with just about anything. I am currently on several search committees and I really appreciate her responsiveness and kindness. She is wonderful.
5/22/18	
Submitted by: Sue McGinnis	

Rachel Worthington	I would like to recognize Rachel Worthington for her exceptional service, responsiveness, and ability to take initiative. She has helped train at least half of the SEM and Student Success fiscal staff and brought to fruition a quarterly fiscal staff meeting which has proved to be very helpful and engaging. She always takes on new responsibilities and tasks with a smile and does so efficiently and effectively. On a daily basis she supports two divisions administratively, fiscally, and even some HR operations. In part, because of her work, students are able to enter the university and receive services and programming geared towards retaining students.
5/10/18	
Submitted by: Maya Simpkins	

April

Danise Harmon	I would like to recognize Ms. Danise Harmon for her responsiveness and willingness to help in any situation. In a sustained period of transition at our School, she is ALWAYS willing to help in a positive and timely manner. In fact, during this transition period, she has been doing
4/26/18	
Submitted by: Jose Alcaine	

	quite a number of tasks in addition to her current position. Throughout all of this, and despite being pulled in many different directions, she is always responsive, kind, and respectful. For all of this, I would like to recognize Ms. Harmon to let her know that her responsiveness, positivity, and work is much appreciated. Thank you.
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Taynya Smith	I am in a new position and have had to follow up on a number of issues retroactively. Tanya has been instrumental in helping me plow through! She is kind, attentive, responsive, and detail-oriented. I cannot thank her enough for her hard work!
4/23/18	
Submitted by: Angelica Bega	

Blanca Marquez	Blanca has been exceptionally helpful, and has gone above and beyond to assist our team here at the department of family medicine with our petty cash accounts. Any time we have questions or need assistance, Blanca is quick to respond, and will go out of her way to make sure we have everything we need, all while making sure we are also in accordance with all policies and procedures outlined by VCU. We really appreciate her hard work, positive attitude, and knowledgeable expertise - thank you so much, Blanca!
4/19/18	
Submitted by: Harris Middleton	

March

Ann-marie Taranto	Ann-marie is on top of everything and owns her job in such a magnificent way that she makes the lives of those of us that work with her better. I have had numerous problems using RealTime and she has always been there to help me fix those problems. She is very responsive to
3/9/18	
Submitted by: Paula Rafferty	

	all requests for help and manages to handle complicated issues quickly, efficiently, confidentially. Her assistance with a pending FMLA leave has enabled me to continue working with confidence knowing that everything is in place and will be handled correctly. She has very capably helped us with the HR Redesign and efficiently answered questions so that we can make the best decisions for ourselves. I also know that confidential issues are kept just that, confidential. Ann-marie exemplifies a great HR Administrator and employee. We are so very fortunate to have her to work with and I greatly appreciate her since moving to the School of Medicine.
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Samantha Ray	The last few months Sam has been a great help in the office. She exemplifies the best customer service and is always professional and courteous. Her initiative to get any task done is something I am very appreciative of and I am glad to be able to work with her.
3/8/18	
Submitted by: Ashley Brown	

Marcus Mickle	I want to send kudos to Marcus Mickle for taking the initiative to create a Banner 9 Admin Page task from scratch. His hard work and determination not only saved VCU financial resources, but he also acquired knowledge and skills that will be valuable to the Admin Systems team and our supported departments as we move forward with Banner 9. Our team can now provide even further customization to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the systems we support. Way to Make It Amazing, Marcus!
3/7/18	
Submitted by: Deborah Baines	

February

Kayla Watts	Kayla developed a RedCap Training for all of OAP, OSS and the Associate Dean.
2/27/18	
Submitted by: Dr. Debra Barksdale	

Amy Nugent	Though I could only list one date of interaction with Mrs. Nugent, she has consistently been an incredible help to me in my work with ChromeRiver and Christopherson. Mrs. Nugent is incredibly knowledgeable, responsive, and friendly in everything she does and is an indispensable asset to VCU as a whole. That only she and Mr. Messenger process reimbursements for the entirety of the university is astounding and speaks even greater volumes to her diligence and work ethic. Competent and professional as well as amicable, Mrs. Nugent is undeniably deserving of recognition for her fantastic service to VCU.
2/22/18	
Submitted by: Andrew Levin	

Frank Pitchford	Frank Pitchford has been consistently available and helpful long before Wilder School's Undergraduate Advising Office's move, but especially so after our move over winter break. He has worked long hours setting up our networking system, resolved issues quickly and has done so with a positive attitude and with great care. He has gone above and beyond to make our office move as easy as possible. He deserves recognition for a job well done and for doing it with such a cheerful disposition.
2/2/18	
Submitted by: Brianne Morrison	

January

Demmie Pennix	I think responsiveness is the biggest umbrella to recognize Ms. Pennix for the incredible work she does at the School of Nursing. Ms. Pennix is the key person for travel, hiring, and adjunct contracts, and I interact with her a great deal in all these areas. In particular, we have initiated a new adjunct hiring process that has required a lot more work by her and for her to provide guidance to the rest of us to make sure we follow the procedures appropriately. She processes dozens of such contracts each semester. She is always, without fail, courteous, focused, detail oriented, helpful, follows-through well, never loses her patience even if I ask something I know I have asked her before or if I need a reminder, supports the faculty as they navigate new processes, ensures adjuncts have their contracts and they are done well and on time. She provides support for a lot of different people in different roles, and always treats everyone with the same degree of care and respect. She is one of those people without whom we could not function and I am incredibly grateful for the courteous and proficient way in which she approaches her work.
1/10/18	
Submitted by: Beth Rodgers	

2017

December

Elise Kepus	Elise is always, always extremely responsive to requests for information whether by email or by phone. This is extremely appreciated especially since a lot of requests that I send to her are time sensitive. On October 26, 2017, I
12/02/17	

Submitted by: Fonda Neal	submitted a request to her for GPA information on Ph.D students that was needed by our Associate Dean very quickly. Elise indicated that the university does not record separate GPAs for Ph.D and MS level students; however, she took the initiative to find out if there was a different way the information could be obtained, and there was. Thank you Elise for your continued efforts to ensure we accomplish our mission here at VCU!
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Kristin Smith	Kristin is always very responsive to requests for information. On October 26, 2017, I submitted an urgent request to Records and Registration for GPA information because I was unable to obtain the GPA data myself as the university does not record separate GPA for MS from Ph.D programs. Kristin was able to obtain the information from Degreeworks for me. I really appreciate her efforts to provide this information which was of a time sensitive nature. Thanks Kristin for always being extremely responsive!
12/20/17	
Submitted by: Fonda Neal	

Amy Nugent	Since I began working here in Family Medicine, Amy has continued to be professional, courteous, responsive, and extremely helpful with even the most difficult and complicated travel and reimbursement requests. One reimbursement in particular this week has required a great deal of research and communication with the entire procurement team, and Amy took ownership and was able to produce a solution quickly and efficiently while staying in constant communication with me along each step of the way. Amy is a pleasure to work with, and goes above
12/7/17	
Submitted by: Harris Middleton	

	and beyond to make sure we are reimbursing our guests at VCU quickly and efficiently, while adhering to all travel guidelines, policies, and procedures. We all really appreciate her hard work!
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November

Latoya Blizzard	LaToya is always pleasant, professional, helpful and so nice to work with.
11/8/17	
Submitted by: Debra Barksdale	

Latina Pitts	Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion and Building Inclusive Communities training and facilitation.
11/8/17	
Submitted by: Debra Barksdale	

Christina Kyrus	It is a pleasure to work with Christina on the Educational Grant Process. She is highly motivated, competent and energetic.
11/8/17	
Submitted by: Debra Barksdale	

October

Jose Alcaine	Jose Alcaine continually invites members of the School of Education community to interact with one another and share expertise. He is always willing to assist faculty immediately with support in
10/27/17	

Submitted by: Joan Rhodes	locating and writing grants. I appreciate his quick responses to requests and his wonderful personality!
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Julie Gorlewski	Dr. Gorlewski consistently informs our department members (as a group) and faculty members (individually) of upcoming changes to our instructional schedule. She presents clear alternatives for meeting budget demands and supports faculty efforts as we "think outside the box" to generate revenue. Her initiatives are creative and insightful. She treats all members of our department with respect and kindness. Dr. Gorlewski has been a very positive addition to our department and VCU.
10/26/17	
Submitted by: Joan Rhodes	

Julie Gorlewski	I've worked with Scott this summer/fall on the project to move our servers to Virtual Machines. Even though he just stepped into this position recently, he was very responsive, easy to work with, and patiently answered all questions I had. He is professional, and knowledgeable. His help was extremely invaluable.
10/26/17	
Submitted by: Mariusz Ostasz	

Scott Blackwell	I've worked with Scott this summer/fall on the project to move our servers to Virtual Machines. Even though he just stepped into this position recently, he was very responsive, easy to work with, and patiently answered all questions I had. He is professional, and knowledgeable. He's help was extremely invaluable.
10/23/17	
Submitted by: Mariusz Ostasz	

Benjamin Wyatt	I owe a HUGE 'thank you' to Ben Wyatt, one of VCU's Technology Services
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10/19/17	technicians. Ben stepped me through what felt like a technical maze! He was patient, clear, knowledgeable, patient, thorough, patient, proactive, responsive, and did I mention patient? Sometimes IT professionals can appear to speak an unknown language, resolving an issue so quickly that the customer is left grateful but totally baffled - causing them to repeat requests for help that may not actually be necessary. Ben's level of service and his explanation, even as he resolved my issue, was absolutely amazing. His customer service skills and technical expertise make for one awesome professional, and I truly want him to know that his service is greatly appreciated.
Submitted by: Florence Johnson	

Janet Ball	I called IT Services for help this morning, and Janet Ball was amazing! Polite, knowledgeable and patient, she assisted me with customer service that deserves an A+ and recognition of a job exceptionally well done. She's a living example of what makes VCU a "Great Place." Thank you Janet.
10/19/17	
Submitted by: Florence Johnson	

Chriss Watts	Chris stayed after hours at the School of Nursing to check to make sure that the automatic doors would open when the button was pressed. He knew that there was a young lady that would be coming to the school for a class who had a service dog. He wanted to make sure that she would have no trouble entering the building even though it was after his shift. I really appreciate this going above and beyond for customer service.
10/11/17	
Submitted by: Sue McGinnis	

Melissa Burton	Melissa was asked to help me with a symposium that had 150 attendees as I am about to go out on maternity leave and could use an extra pair of hands. To say she helped me is a huge understatement. She went above and beyond to make sure the symposium was successful and had a huge smile on her face the entire time! Not only did she help during the symposium but she stopped by the next day to see if I needed anything to wrap up the event and I actually did. She returned something for me that required a lot of walking which being 9 months pregnant is a bigger task than usual. I am beyond grateful to have a co-worker like Melissa. She is truly an asset to VCU!
10/5/17	
Submitted by: Jamie Smalley	

Ervin Taylor	This morning, I received a phone call from Captain Taylor who was responding to the chemical issue at Cary St. Gym. He noticed a young lady who was evacuated from the gym standing in the street in a towel, visibly upset. He took the initiative to ask this young lady if he could help. This young lady had a meeting scheduled with a faculty member in the School of Education at 11 am and was upset because she had no clothes or her phone to contact the faculty member. Captain Taylor took time to speak with her and gather information from her such as, she just moved to Richmond and is moving into a new apartment today, along with the meeting she had scheduled. He showed an incredible amount of empathy and it was so rewarding to receive a call from Captain Taylor who was trying to do his best to help someone else. I believe this goes beyond his call of duty and I want him to know how this small act of kindness speaks volumes to his character and compassion for others. We are fortunate to
10/5/17	
Submitted by: Courtney Waker	

	have Captain Taylor employed with VCU Police!
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September

Jonathan Blake	Summertime upgrades to the centrally supported classrooms in our building added new video and audio hardware that required some tweaking to streamline use by our instructors. Jonathan made the necessary adjustments and performed troubleshooting, all while patiently answering my questions. He identified an issue with my lavalier wireless microphone and swapped the defective part to save me a trip to the helpdesk. While on site, he also identified that the rear of the classroom was inadequately covered by speakers, took the initiative to work with his manager to obtain additional ones, and installed them within a week and a half. There were numerous times Jonathan could easily have taken a shortcut and provided "good enough" service, but he chose to go above and beyond. His work and that of his manager and colleagues has placed us on excellent footing for the beginning of our fall seminar series.
9/7/17	
Submitted by: Brian Bush	

August

Kevin Finity	While working on a project update for the Student Success Collaborative (SSC) Campus application, Kevin went above and beyond to reorganize for reuse a major, repetitive portion of code. This change will make project maintenance much more efficient for developers, increase code consistency and decrease the run time of the combined processes. Kevin thoroughly tested all changes to the program and the automated process and
8/24/17	
Submitted by: Deborah Baines	

	displayed excellent teamwork while quickly resolving post-production issues. Way to go, Kevin!
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Corey Boone	Corey Boone, Assistant Director for the Office of Events and Special Programs in the Division of University Relations, is also a fellow for the Division for Inclusive Excellence. I'm recognizing him not only for his integrity, but also for the respect, initiative and the responsiveness he demonstrates in every interaction I've encountered with him. Corey's work is consistently infused with friendliness and the willingness to assist others, regardless of how busy he may be. He offers a helping hand as quickly to develop name tags as he does to serve on a task force or spearhead a new initiative. Corey exhibits a work ethic we can all do well to emulate and in doing so, truly enhances our university's mission. For his professionalism, his smile, and his genuine dedication to making VCU a great place, I thank him. Corey, you are awesome!
8/23/17	
Submitted by: Florence Johnson	

Amy Nugent	What DOESN'T Amy know? Regardless of the complexity of the travel question, Amy has the answer. Unless she's answering someone else's question, Amy answers her phone, so I get an immediate response, even though I know Amy stays very, very busy. This is so helpful, as often I'm in the middle of filing a travel reimbursement and need an answer right away. Her sense of urgency and her availability make me look efficient! I wish to acknowledge Amy for Integrity--she is scrupulous in her handling of the university's money--and Respect--she has never been rude to me and responds to
8/17/17	
Submitted by: Ginny Schmitz	

	my inquiries with patience and courtesy. The university is lucky to have her.
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Stacy West	Stacy West has been incredibly responsive to my needs as a researcher and change agent. She went out of her way to help me navigate a complicated IRB process; she even came to my office on the other campus to discuss and help me fill out the correct forms in the correct way. My team is able to move in a timely fashion on a grant proposal because of Ms. West.
8/15/17	
Submitted by: Dr. Maike Philipsen	

Marcus Mickle	I want to recognize Marcus for an awesome job providing daily leadership for our team and temporary leadership for TS Administrative Systems. It seemed there was a new emergency involving a different system every day, and he not only resolved the issues as they arose, but he also took the time to answer my questions and provide the help I needed to complete assignments. Since joining Administrative Systems, Marcus has been pivotal in helping me to learn and grow and always includes me when a situation presents a learning opportunity. What a great way to lead! Thank you, Marcus.
8/15/17	
Submitted by: Deborah Baines	

Tasha Jackson	I would like to recognize Tasha for excellent observation skills in her current position as husbandry staff. She approached me concerned with the water consumption of one set of animals compared to the rest of the animals in the room. The strain of the animal was different and upon investigation she was correct in the differences in water consumption between the strains. Her
8/8/17	
Submitted by: Cynthia H. Radvany	

	main concern was for the animals and that they were getting enough water. I feel recognition is due for her above average husbandry skill in this incidence.
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July

Candace Stafford	Received the following email from a client: I wanted to tell you that Candace always goes above and beyond in her role as data manager for Healthy Start...but this year, she really wins the prize for Most Valuable Player. Just wanted you to know how much I appreciate her!
7/25/17	
Submitted by: Mary Moore	

Gregory Kimbrell	Gregory Kimbrell is truly one of the most wonderful members of the VCU community that I have the pleasure to work with. I periodically contact him regarding use of Cabell Library facilities. Regardless of how much or little notice is offered when I approach him, he is consistently professional, informative, friendly, courteous, patient and, kind. Gregory's attention to detail and ability to dissect the various nuances of an event shows through every time, and he is wonderfully proactive in offering suggestions and solutions that enhance our events and add to an overall smoother planning process. Gregory is one of the folks who make VCU a Great Place, and I'm honored to be able to recognize him.
7/20/17	
Submitted by: Florence M Johnson	

Sania Marcoccia	Though I listed today's date, I've appreciated Sania Marcoccia for years, including for her tenure as president of the VCU Staff Senate. Her integrity as a leader, initiative in tackling everything from overall staff concerns to organized help for
7/7/17	

Submitted by: Florence M Johnson	community members in need, responsiveness to those who approach her on a daily basis, and the respect she consistently offers to others, are just some of the reasons I admire Sania.
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Janet Sweeney	I needed assistance with an HR function and Janet took the time to walk me step by step through the process. It was very much appreciated.
7/6/17	
Submitted by: Stephen Davenport	

Debra D. Robinson	I had a situation where I was having to go back and research an invoice that I thought had been paid a year ago. But when I went into Banner, it was indicating that the payment had not been processed which was odd. I called the Accounts Payable Department and selected the Vendor Payment Analyst indicated. But, to my surprise, it sent me to the wrong person. Rather than getting to the person I should have gone to, I was sent to Debra's phone. She no longer covers this particular vendor. But, rather than telling me to call the other analyst, she took it upon herself to help me with my problem. With her help, we figured out what was wrong and I was able to contact the vendor and complete my transaction. Debra truly went out of her way to help me. And, I greatly appreciate it.
7/5/17	
Submitted by: Susan W. Hall	

June

Tammy Currie	I needed Tammy's assistance with renewing a contract, she took the time to
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6/30/17	do background research and assist me with the process.
Submitted by: Stephen Davenport	

Fenol Bellange	Fenol always goes the extra mile, but today he went above and beyond that by spending the entire afternoon assisting me with tracing out network connections. He has his own projects, but always offers to help with a smile. I am extremely lucky to have a co-worker like Fenol.
6/23/17	
Submitted by: Isac Crouch	

Shannon Cain	We arrange photographs for incoming residents annually and Shannon is consistently quick to respond, extremely organized, and very pleasant to work with. I really appreciate the high level of service offered, as well as the friendly voice on the other end of our email interactions. Thanks, Shannon!
6/21/17	
Submitted by: Jennifer Grey	

Tiesha Brown	Tiesha went the extra mile, contacted us, and notified us of a much more efficient way of processing I-9 re-verifications. This came at just the right time when we were about to process approximately 200 student worker transfers and new hires. She is always extremely helpful when interacting with me and my staff. Great customer service!
6/20/17	
Submitted by: George Kelly	

Raina Fields	Raina is our division's communications director. She has only been with us for two months but has already made a huge impact in raising our visibility via social media and news articles, and with various other communications. I truly appreciate
6/12/17	

Submitted by: Florence M. Johnson	her diligence and connection to our team in such a short time, and I know that my colleagues in Inclusive Excellence join me in giving her a HUGE HIGH 5! Thank you Raina.
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May

Channing Holloway	I want to thank Channing for promptly responding to getting my son (Keon Nesmith) back into the HR system so that he can continue working as a part-time worker with Physical Plant.
5/24/17	
Submitted by: Sheila Baker	

Sharon A. Banks	Sharon was responsible for designing and initiating the new lunch room that our department sorely needed. She planned the design and worked with the craftsmen that painted, hung the cabinets and delivered the appliances. She did an excellent job and helped create a room that is well organized and easy to enjoy. We greatly appreciate her hard work and the wonderful outcome. Thank you, Sharon!
5/23/17	
Submitted by: Carol N. Brooks	

Mariusz Otsasz	Mariusz did a fantastic job spearheading the project to integrate Google Calendar functionality into the Crestron RoomView system and get our RoomView panels operational at 111 N. 4th. He went out of his way to stop by and walk us through use, administration, and troubleshooting of the panels and was very friendly, knowledgeable, and courteous throughout the experience. He represents his team very well!
5/3/17	
Submitted by: John Bogan	

April

De'Audrea Rich	De'Audrea, or "Sha," is a model of initiative. Actually, she embodies all four recognition aspects: initiative, integrity, respect and responsiveness. This is even more impressive as she works part-time and could easily handle her job without the very real dedication she offers every single day. Sha is also a student here at VCU, and I greatly admire that she handles her classes and the responsibilities she undertakes in the workplace, seamlessly. I've never heard her complain or back away from an assignment, no matter how busy she may already be. Her manner is consistently pleasant, her customer service skills exemplary, and her work is always top-notch. She really does reflect the name of our division perfectly: Inclusive Excellence. Sha, you are greatly appreciated.
4/27/17	
Submitted by: Florence M. Johnson	

LeAndra Grave	Responsiveness is just one of many reasons I'm offering this recognition 'shout-out' to Le'Andra Graves. Whether I come to her for specific or vague scheduling requests, she is quick to offer guidance and viable solutions for dates, locations, event needs, layout suggestions - you name it! Even when requests are impossible to fulfill, she offers detailed explanations as to why, and doable alternatives. Her professionalism is so on-target, one might be tempted to overlook the very real customer service that infuses her interactions. Her ability, expertise and willingness to go the extra mile are very much appreciated, and I greatly admire her ability to handle it all with grace, especially in such a high volume arena. Le'Andra: Congrats to you for being so very awesome!
4/25/17	
Submitted by: Florence M. Johnson	

Lauren Leavy	Lauren Leavy is an outstanding employee. She has provided the highest level of competence when carrying out any duties assigned to her. I am extremely grateful to her for all of her support with Reunion Weekend activities.
4/12/17	
Submitted by: Diane Stout-Brown	

Lieutenant Leonard Dilligard	April 7-9 was Alumni Reunion Weekend. Lieutenant Leonard Dilligard went above and beyond the call of duty by helping out our disabled guests who were attending an alumni reception in the Office of the Provost. We are very appreciative of his support and willingness to ensure a first-class experience for alumni returning to campus. Thank you.
4/12/17	
Submitted by: Diane Stout-Brown	

Demmie Pennix	I want to thank Demmie Pennix for all of the great work that she does. She is proactive, efficient, thorough and an utter pleasure to work with. If she says she is going to do it, she does it, no need to follow up or confirm....she gets the job done. She has helped to make the adjunct faculty assignment process so much easier for me as the course scheduler. My time spent working with Demmie is always always full of smiles, her positive attitude and smile are infectious. What a great asset you are to the School of Nursing; I am proud to be your coworker!
4/10/17	
Submitted by: Teri Smith	

Lorraine Anderson	I want to thank Lorraine Anderson for always communicating so well with me in regards to the clinical placements and complex scheduling issues that are related to her courses. She is thorough and
4/10/17	

Submitted by: Teri Smith	proactive, not to mention she makes working with her enjoyable as she has such a great personality and sense of humor. Thank you for being so wonderful to work with!
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Lee Watts	Lee is often the person "behind the scenes" on some of the most critical, confidential, and time sensitive university initiatives. Most recently his work contributed greatly to the success of a faculty bonus process. We had a very quick timeframe for the implementation of a faculty bonus process. Lee produced the list of eligible faculty (based on the criteria provided) in a very short period of time at the beginning of the process, generated exception reports to check on any discrepancies towards the end of the process to ensure data integrity, and ensured that the bonuses awarded were processed in Banner in time for a March 31, 2017 payout. Lee should especially be recognized for his technical expertise, his attention to detail, and ensuring the timely production of the bonuses. Please know your efforts are greatly appreciated by many people. Thank you Lee for all that you do for VCU!
4/3/17	
Submitted by: Konjit Chitty	

March

Angie Wetzel	Angie has done a terrific job of helping us craft an exit survey for our Ed.D. students. She was responsive, helpful, and thorough. I was impressed with how quickly she works and how much she was able to help me think "bigger."
3/29/17	
Submitted by: Charol Shakeshaft	

Pam Moorehead	I've had a number of problems with my computer and printer over the past several months. I have also had difficulty getting the speakers to work in the doctoral hearing room. Pam is always on it. Right away. She and her staff are responsive, helpful, respectful, and they get things fixed.
3/29/17	
Submitted by: Charol Shakeshaft	

Samantha Tansey	I needed some help with my FACR budget. Samantha was responsive and helpful. This is not the first time. Samantha has been a great help with a number of things!
3/29/17	
Submitted by: Charol Shakeshaft	

February

Bruna Bussacarini Martins	Bruna has been an example of professionalism since the moment she started working at the Division for Inclusive Excellence a few months ago. Her demeanor helps the Division for Inclusive Excellence to spread our mission of diversity, inclusiveness and excellence. On behalf of my colleagues in the Division for Inclusive Excellence, I would like to thank Bruna for her services by nominating her to this recognition award. Thank you very much, Bruna.
2/1/17	
Submitted by: Eduardo P. G. Vidal	

January

Greg Kimbrell	Greg Kimbrell was invaluable in the success of the School of Education 2017 Annual Research Colloquium that was held in the Cabell Library lecture hall and board room. He assisted in securing the space, designing the layout of the space, ensuring audio visual needs, suggesting
1/27/17	

Submitted by: Deborah Speece, Jose Alcaine, Danise Harmon	catering needs, and facilitating set-up and take-down of both rooms. Beyond the details of these tasks, Greg was unfailingly professional, courteous, and a joy to work with. His presence was welcoming and reassuring. We look forward to working with Greg for future events.
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Yavonda Johnon	I am a new hire in a position formerly held by Elizabeth. Although Elizabeth left the department for another employment opportunity with the university, she is still revered and left a lasting impression on faculty and staff alike. For this reason I requested her assistance with helping me to become more acclimated to my new position as well as internal processes used while in the department. Without hesitation she obliged and took time out of her busy schedule to do just that. Her sharing of knowledge and expertise has enabled me to quickly jump into the daily milieu of the department and perform with confidence. The fact that she shared her broad knowledge about the duties and responsibilities of a PA and those specifically applicable to my role, as well as shared her resources and tools (some of which she created herself) shows that not only is she an asset to her new department, but is a true example of magnanimity in the university.
1/19/17	
Submitted by: Elizabeth Seward	

Demmie Pennix	Demmie always goes above and beyond. She most recently assisted with the hiring of a new employee at the VCU School of Nursing. She is professional, thorough, detailed, and always follows through. I really appreciate having someone like Demmie on my team at the school!
1/24/17	
Submitted by: Sue McGinnis	

Derek Poe	Derek provides the most comprehensive customer service on a daily basis - not just periodically. He will often go above and beyond what is required of his position in order to assist a student, fellow workers, parents, etc. It is not uncommon for him to contact other departments on behalf of the student or to go the extra mile by further researching the root of a problem in order to prevent its recurrence. I applaud Derek for his warm and caring approach to every situation.
1/23/17	
Submitted by: Ronna Reiff	

Allison Wetterhahn	Allison exhibits all 3 areas of the trust triangle - Care, Competence, and Consistency. Whenever I consult her I can always trust in and rely on the information she gives me. Thanks for always going the extra mile!
1/3/17	
Submitted by: George Kelly	