

Lincoln Land Community College



**Key or Unique Demonstrations of Outstanding Service**

## **Summer 2016 Award Winners**

**Nominee: Jolene Adams, Culinary Institute Coordinator, Community Education**

Nominator: Barb Eades, Assistant Director, Foundation and Karen Sanders, Executive Director, Foundation

Jolene is a "go getter" with a constant source of energy and ideas! One example was her assistance with the LLCC Foundation Gala. She assisted with the event, but went above and beyond and helped create a welcoming atmosphere as our guests arrived. Her friendly, flexible nature make her a joy to work with. She is always willing to work within the parameters requested for our special events. We appreciate Jolene! Kudos!

**Nominee: Anne Armbruster, Student Development Professional, Advising/Counseling/Career Services**

Nominator: Ryan Howland, Student Development Professional, Advising/Counseling/Career Services

Anne deserves KUDOS for the way she serves the overwhelming number of students that are interested in the nursing program. As the main advisor for the nursing program she deals with a lot of students and she does so with a positive attitude and smile on her face.

**Nominee: Gary Armour, Laboratory Safety Coordinator, Math and Sciences**

Nominator: Barb Bernardi, Professor of Biology, Math and Sciences

Gary goes above and beyond what is required in his part time job title, doing many jobs that need to be done without being asked. As an adjunct, he ALWAYS attends department meetings and is always compliant with the departmental guidelines for courses.

**Nominee: Celena Bardwell, Duplication and Mail Center Technician, Finance**

Nominator: Valarie Howse, Admission and Registration Services Representative, Admission/Records/Registration

I want to give a shout out to the mail room crew! Celena Bardwell, Neci Faine, & Matt Combs... Thank you so much for your assistance with all of our orders and forms! You all are always there to help us with our emergencies and show us the ropes! Thanks so much! You all Rock!!!

**Nominee: Nichole Brachear, Financial Aid Assistant, Financial Aid**

Nominator: Dawn Burch, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid

Nichole always provides excellent customer service and takes time to listen to student concerns. In difficult situations, Nichole always keeps her composure, listens and helps the student no matter what the situation may be. I commend her for the work she does each day. Thank you, Nichole.

**Nominee: Michelle Burger, Career Development Professional, Advising/Counseling/Career Services**

Nominator: Mary Beth Ray, Director, Advising/Counseling/Career Services

Kudos to Michelle Burger for assisting 66 of our nursing bridge students in creating very professional resumes this spring. Employers complimented our students on their resumes!

**Nominee: Michelle Burger Career Development Professional, Advising/Counseling/Career Services**

Nominator: Brittany Clark, Retention Specialist, TRIO Student Support Services

A former student that I know said she had been trying to find a job but had been unable to for some time after being laid off. I suggested she meet with Career Development to redo her resume and cover letter. The student called me back about a month later letting me know that thanks to Michelle's help she was able to land several job offers, with the one she chose having benefits and a great retirement plan. She said that Michelle was so patient and helpful and was very supportive. Thanks Michelle for going the extra mile to be there for the student! You truly made an impact on her life and was able to be the positive force that helped change her situation around!

**Nominee: Philip Burnett, Facilities Maintenance Technician, Facilities Services**

Nominator: Anonymous

Philip saved us from the massive bug that was in our office! He is our hero!!!! Thank you for taking time and coming to our rescue!

**Nominee: Shanda Byer, Director, Admission/Records/Registration**

Nominator: Valerie Wright, Associate Dean of Nursing, Health Professions

Kudos to you Shanda for always being so supportive of the nursing program! I know we can sometimes be a "strain" for the admissions department and I really appreciate all of the support and guidance you provide to the staff in admissions as well as to us. We have had a few bumps along the way, but you have handled them flawlessly! Looking forward to a snazzy fall semester!

**Nominee: Kat Chamberlain, Financial Aid Assistant**

Nominator: Dawn Burch, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid

As our newest member to the financial aid team, Kat helps each student with confidence. Kat is a great addition to the financial aid team. Kat gives her all each day.

**Nominee: Amy Chernowsky, Academic Success Professional, Center for Academic Success**

Nominator: Chris Barry, Director, Retention and Student Success

Amy is an innovator and brings energy that spurs on the creativity of those around her. She has been instrumental in keeping us "On Course" for our new active learning workshop. Her organization, planning ahead and positive attitude keep the atmosphere at LLCC light, fun and productive!

**Nominee: Matt Combs, Facility Services Support Specialist, Finance**

Nominator: Valarie Howse, Admission and Registration Services Representative, Admission/Records/Registration

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**Nominee: Jeris Creasey, IT Trainer and Technical Writer, ITS**

Nominator: Julie Eason, Assistant to the Vice President, Administrative Services & Chief Information Officer

With short notice, there was a need to set up a Skype meeting for individuals at several outreach centers. Jeris was very helpful with this process. In addition to sending me step-by-step instructions, she offered to assist me in any way. She met me at the meeting sight to ensure the equipment was working properly and helped me to understand how it worked and what I needed to do. Since I was working with something unfamiliar, I appreciated her friendly, thorough and professional manner.

**Nominee: Stephanie Cummings, Placement and Testing Coordinator, Placement and Testing**

Nominator: Chris Barry, Director, Retention and Student Success

Stephanie has a great attitude and focuses on how we can best serve our new students especially through the crucial onboarding process. She contributes to student success by ensuring new students understand the stakes of their testing and options to prepare. Her collaboration is appreciated and has been key in a recent project.

**Nominee: Neci Faine, Duplication and Mail Center Technician, Finance**

Nominator: Valarie Howse, Admission and Registration Services Representative, Admission/Records/Registration

I want to give a shout out to the mail room crew! Celena Bardwell, Neci Faine, & Matt Combs... Thank you so much for your assistance with all of our orders and forms! You all are always there to help us with our emergencies and show us the ropes! Thanks so much! You all Rock!!!

**Nominee: David Ferrill, Information Technology Specialist, ITS**

Nominator: Carl Jones, Instructional Media Specialist, Academic Innovation and eLearning

David is always kind, helpful and prompt when handling any I.T. situation. He always has a smile on his face and often goes above and beyond to help in any way he can. David is a very valuable asset to the college.

**Nominee: David Ferrill, Information Technology Specialist, ITS**

Nominator: Anonymous

Dave is just awesome. He always seems to have a cheery disposition while he is working. Recently, I also saw Dave helping out a coworker from a different department in a rain storm. That employee didn't have an umbrella and Dave walked them to their car, umbrella over their head and he was getting soaked. It is a pleasure to get to work with people like Dave throughout campus.

**Nominee: Ada Fleeharty, Career Development Specialist, Advising/Counseling/Career Services**

Nominator: Mary Beth Ray, Director, Advising/Counseling/Career Services

Kudos to Ada Fleeharty for assisting 66 of our nursing bridge students in creating very professional resumes this spring. Employers complimented our students on their resumes!

**Nominee: Ada Fleeharty, Career Development Specialist, Advising/Counseling/Career Services**

Nominator: Leslie Johnson, Assistant Vice President, Student Success

Ada is co-chair of the AQIP Student Employment Team. She has done an excellent job facilitating discussions and allowing everyone's voice to be heard. She has also done a great job keeping our project on the scheduled timeline or ahead of schedule. It has been a pleasure serving on this team. Way to go Ada!

**Nominee: Dave Gleeson, Grounds Maintenance Worker, Facilities Services**

Nominator: Anonymous

Dave takes the utmost care in making sure that the front door to our campus provides a warm welcome to all. From the median on Toronto Road, to the grass along Poorman Drive and up to the front doors of A. Lincoln Commons, Dave's attention and dedication to detail is apparent. Dave is meticulous about the lawn between Menard Hall and the Millennium Center, providing the finishing touches to his message of Welcome to Lincoln Land! Well done, Dave!

**Nominee: Jane Hartman, Professor of Music, Arts and Humanities**

Nominator: Barb Eades, Assistant Director, Foundation and Karen Sanders, Executive Director, Foundation

Jane regularly goes above and beyond to showcase LLCC music students' talents! For the past 10 years, she has readily agreed to plan and execute the entertainment for the LLCC Foundation Gala. This involves additional practices and lots of behind the scene work before taking the stage. Every year Jane increases the level of expectation for our guests, going above and beyond in providing outstanding musical entertainment. This year was exceptional! Not only did the LLCC Big Band play wonderful musical selections, but provided a terrific musical interlude, including singing, dancing and playing instruments on the way to the stage! Kudos to Jane!

**Nominee: Richard Hayes, Academic Advisor, Advising/Counseling/Career Services**

Nominator: Mary Beth Ray, Director, Advising/Counseling/Career Services

Kudos to Richard Hayes for coordinating two very successful transfer fairs this spring, one for the state universities and one for the private colleges. Advisors and counselors were able to gain and share valuable information about transfer requirements for our students.

**Nominee: Richard Hayes, Academic Advisor, Advising/Counseling/Career Services**

Nominator: Dr. Cynthia Maskey, Dean of Health Professions and Gaye Catlin, Admin. Assistant to the Dean

When a request came in for program cost information for some of the Health Professions programs, Richard shared documents that he had prepared with most of the information we needed. These documents included updated costs for tuition, books, fees, tests and other expenses. This made what we had to do for our programs much easier! We are so appreciative for his offer to share his documents with the information we were needing! The Health Professions department appreciates Richard, not only for his help with this project, but for his willingness to help us out with any problems and questions that might arise. Thank you, Richard!

**Nominee: Ryan Howland, Student Development Professional, Advising/Counseling/Career Services**

Nominator: Claire Heffron-McKinney, Student Development Professional, Advising/Counseling/Career Services

Ryan joined the Advising, Counseling and Career Development Services team in February. He's been a great person to work with and has great input and ideas. Ryan has eagerly taken on new tasks and with a sense of determination and professionalism. He's been complimented by many students that I have spoken to and has been a great addition to our team. Now that he's all settled in his new house, we are just waiting for that pool party invite! Thanks for all of your help and hard work, Ryan!

**Nominee: Sean Keeley, Culinary Specialist, Business and Technologies**

Nominator: Barb Eades, Assistant Director, Foundation and Karen Sanders, Executive Director, Foundation

Hats off to Chef Keeley and the entire culinary team for the role they played with helping us present our 10th annual Gala! Our 300 guests were very impressed with the quality of the food, service and overall experience provided at this important fundraiser. His calm demeanor set the tone for a wonderful evening. Kudos to Chef and team! The hard work to make this event possible is truly appreciated!

**Nominee: Samantha (Sam) Kost, Academic Advisor, Advising/Counseling/Career Services**

Nominator: Claire Heffron-McKinney, Student Development Professional, Advising/Counseling/Career Services

Sam joined our team earlier this year. She's been fearless about jumping right in and hitting the ground running. I have had numerous students tell me that she is a wonderful advisor and has been very helpful to them. She brings a sense of humor (and a great southern accent!) to our department and despite her initial reaction to our Illinois weather (those Tuesday sirens!), she's fitting right in with our diverse group. She's been a tremendous asset to Advising, Counseling and Career Development Services and a pleasure to work with.

**Nominee: David Mahan, Police Officer, Police**

Nominator: Anonymous

Dave always has a new joke or riddle seemingly every day. His lighthearted humor and attitude can cheer you up even on some of the worst days. I know the student services hallway look forward to seeing him at the end of every workday. He is always looking to be helpful and friendly.

**Nominee: Lara Marshall, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid**

Nominator: Dawn Burch, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid

Thanks for all you do each day. You have a great deal of knowledge and strive to help our customers each day.

**Nominee: Cynthia Maskey, Dean, Health Professions**

Nominator: Valerie Wright, Associate Dean of Nursing, Health Professions

Kudos to you Cynthia for always being so supportive of the Nursing Program. Thanks also for covering this summer during the vacations. We are truly blessed to have such a fearless leader like you! You rock!!!

**Nominee: Jamie McCoy, Student Academic Support Program Coordinator, Center for Academic Success**

Nominator: Valerie Wright, Associate Dean of Nursing, Health Professions

Kudos to you, Jamie, on your job promotion! You have been such a blessing to our students and department and although we are super pumped for you, we are also sad to see you go. We really, REALLY appreciate all of your efforts in making the transition be as seamless and painless as possible. You ROCK!!!!

**Nominee: Lori McDonald, Director, LLCC Litchfield**

Nominator: LLCC Litchfield Staff

LLCC-Litchfield staff would like to brag on Lori with a Kudos award for going above and beyond to support one of our students. Lori took time out of her schedule and drove to Peoria on a weekend to support the student participating in the "Miss You Can Do It Pageant" in Peoria, a pageant for girls with special needs.

**Nominee: Craig McFarland, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid**

Nominator: Dawn Burch, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid

Craig strives to help our veterans with any issue they may have. I admire Craig for his dedication to our service members.

**Nominee: Ashley Miller, Administrative Assistant to the Dean, Health Professions**

Nominator: Valerie Wright, Associate Dean of Nursing, Health Professions

Ashley - Kudos to you for helping get our office so organized! You have done a rock star job at getting things super-efficient and running seamlessly. We are truly blessed to have you on our team!

**Nominee: Alison Mills, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid**

Nominator: Craig McFarland, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid

Alison's contributions to the Brian McMillen Run/Walk committee have been substantial over the last several years. She has specifically been in charge of gathering the list of volunteers for the event. As volunteer coordinator, she is also tasked with assigning roles for the morning of the run. The event runs (pardon the pun) so smoothly because of her efforts!

**Nominee: Alison Mills, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid**

Nominator: Dawn Burch, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid

Alison is a great go-to person. You can always bounce ideas and questions her way. Thank you for all you do each and every day.

**Nominee: John Moore, Central Receiving Assistant, Finance**

Nominator: Barb Eades, Assistant Director, Foundation and Karen Sanders, Executive Director, Foundation

John is always willing to go above and beyond and help us with special requests. He is efficient and organized when we are experiencing total chaos before a major event! The extra deliveries and movement of orders to correct locations are handled in a timely manner. His assistance with these "extras" are very much appreciated. Kudos, John!

**Nominee: Janet Moulton, Associate Professor of Nursing, Health Professions**

Nominator: Anonymous

Mother Teresa stated, "Spread love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier." Janet Moulton does just so! Her huge heart and caring nature truly make LLCC a more positive, loving environment not only for the faculty and staff she works with but also for the students. She goes above and beyond to care for others and to make them feel appreciated. Thank you, Janet, for all that you do!

**Nominee: Rachel Patarozzi, Director, Budget and Fiscal Services**

Nominator: Karie Longhta, Associate Vice President, Finance

Rachel did a fantastic job pulling together the FY'17 budget. Rachel spent countless hours pulling several years' worth of numbers, reviewing the detail and analyzing trends. She took the time to look at every account in the operating funds which includes several hundred accounts. Rachel maintained her sanity and earned a special Kudos for presenting a balanced FY'17 budget under some very limited funding projections.

**Nominee: Rachel Patarozzi, Director, Budget and Fiscal Services**

Nominator: Chris Barry, Director, Retention and Student Success

I appreciate the work Rachel has done behind the scenes to trim the fat off of our budgets for the upcoming year so that we can focus on providing services to students and not on cutting our budgets. I am sure this work was pretty tedious and I appreciate Rachel and her staff for helping the college survive these financially troubling times.

**Nominee: Samuel Penning, System Administrator II, ITS**

Nominator: Shanda Byer, Director, Admission/Records/Registration

Samuel exemplifies customer service. While most LLCC employees try to provide good service to our students, we don't often show the same care when working with one another. Samuel respectfully listens to and considers all requests. He responds in a timely manner to let you know if the request can be completed and if it will be completed in the short term or the long. Most importantly, he follows up to make sure that you are completely satisfied. I walk away from each and every conversation with Samuel knowing that if my request can be done, he will do it as soon as he is able. In a time where everyone is being asked to do more and it seems that everything is time-sensitive, it is great to have someone like Samuel on our team!

**Nominee: Patty Petersen, Program Assistant, Health Professions**

Nominator: Valerie Wright, Associate Dean of Nursing, Health Professions

Kudos to you, Patty, for keeping the day to day tasks so organized in the nursing program. Your attention to detail is impeccable! We would be so lost without you! You ROCK!!!

**Nominee: Colleen Pittman, Marketing and Communications Coordinator, PRM**

Nominator: Craig McFarland, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid

Colleen has been a vital member of the Brian McMillen Run/Walk Committee for the last couple of years. She has helped with all of the marketing efforts. We have been able to continue to host a successful event, despite the increased competition from the growing number of 5k runs. She's helped us utilize new ways to market the run to a diverse audience.

**Nominee: Ben Roth, Director, Systems and IT Infrastructure**

Nominator: Anonymous

I would like to nominate Ben for going "above and beyond" by visiting the Beardstown center to check on things while he was on a vacation day. Ben was visiting his parents in Jacksonville and decided to drive to the Beardstown center before heading back home that day. Thank you, Ben, for taking time out of your vacation to make sure things were running smoothly!

**Nominee: Julie Rourke, Director, Workforce Development**

Nominator: Judy Jozaitis, Vice President, Workforce Development and Community Education

Julie is consistently one of the hardest-working individuals in the WDCE division. When grant opportunities with deadlines come up, summer relaxation and vacation plans need to be put on hold. Julie spent the last few weeks putting in extra hours to get the Youth Build Grant submitted. It is this level of commitment to the continued success of the college that makes her such a valuable asset to LLCC.

**Nominee: Lori Smith, Scholarship Program Coordinator, Foundation**

Nominator: Craig McFarland, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid

Lori has been an incredible asset to the Brian McMillen Run/Walk for a number of years. Her hard work in continuing to get sponsors for the event have allowed the run to be a success. The run committee works throughout the year to put on the event and Lori's contributions make the work much easier.

**Nominee: Sue Snoeyenbos, Administrative Assistant to the Dean, Social Sciences**

Nominator: John E. Roberts, Jr., Professor of History, Social Sciences

Everyday, Sue keeps our Social Science Department hallway humming and well-tuned with her competent and dedicated efforts in so many areas. She is also a very caring person who looks out for all of us in a kindly fashion. She certainly makes it easier for us to do our jobs in the most professional manner possible.

**Nominee: Lawrence Strubhart, Horticulturist, Facilities Services**

Nominator: Leslie Stalter, Professor of Art, Arts and Humanities

I often walk up to the college from the Child Development Center. When spring hits, I'm frequently struck by how lovely our grounds look. All facilities services deserve kudos for our campus' image, but I know it's in good part because of Lawrence's expertise as a horticulturist that the flowers bloom when they do, where they do, for the fact that our lawns look like carpets while mine at home succumbs to the weeds and the gala gets lovely flowers at a time of year when it is iffy for most. I often see him zipping around the grounds or carefully tending to a plant. A prospective student recently exclaimed to me, "The campus is just beautiful!" and I agree.

**Nominee: Nancy Sweet, Director, Culinary Program and Operations**

Nominator: Barb Eades, Assistant Director, Foundation and Karen Sanders, Executive Director, Foundation

Nancy consistently goes above and beyond. The most recent example was the planning and support for the 10th annual LLCC Foundation Gala. Nearly 300 community friends enjoyed a fabulous gourmet meal prepared and served by instructors and students. Nancy calmly, efficiently and professionally directed this endeavor. Her "how do we make this happen" attitude is contagious. Her willingness to assist at any time to ensure a quality experience for community members is truly appreciated. Kudos to Nancy!

**Nominee: Kirsten Taylor, Employee Recruitment and HRIS Coordinator, Human Resources**

Nominator: Leslie Johnson, Assistant Vice President, Student Success

Kirsten is co-chair of the AQIP Student Employment Team. She has done an excellent job facilitating discussions and allowing everyone's voice to be heard. She has also done a great job keeping our project on the scheduled timeline or ahead of schedule. It has been a pleasure serving on this team. Way to go Kirsten!

**Nominee: Theresa Till, Professor of Nursing, Health Professions**

Nominator: Mary Goldstein, Professor of Nursing, Health Professions

Theresa- Thanks for all you do for me, our department and our students! Theresa always goes above and beyond and the students always comment on how helpful and thoughtful she is. She volunteered to help cover my clinical group for post conference when I needed to leave early, and is always doing something extra to make my job a little easier. Way to go, Theresa! You are the best.

**Nominee: Dawn Townsend, Administrative Assistant to the Dean, Arts and Humanities**

Nominator: Jason Dockter, Professor of English, Arts and Humanities

Dawn is a true asset to the ARHM office. She approaches each task with a can-do attitude and excels at getting things done. I am specifically nominating Dawn for her help with coordinating numerous interviews while juggling multiple schedules and making it seem so effortless, when I know it's not.

**Nominee: Chelsea Vance, Admission & Registration Service Representative, Admission/Records/Registration**

Nominator: Valerie Wright, Associate Dean of Nursing, Health Professions

Kudos to you for handling the nursing admissions this spring/summer. It was a challenge transitioning when Trudy left and you handled it so well. Thanks for all that you did and continue to do!

**Nominee: Paula Vehlow, Professor of Nursing, Health Professions**

Nominator: Anonymous

Thanks for being the 3rd semester coordinator and keeping us all organized this semester, Paula! You've done a great job and we appreciate the effort, teamwork and communication that went into the job. You're the best!

**Nominee: Jason Waddell, Associate Professor of Music, Arts and Humanities**

Nominator: Barb Eades, Assistant Director, Foundation; Karen Sanders, Executive Director, Foundation; Janet Semanik, Development Specialist, Foundation

Jason is always willing to go above and beyond and promote the talents of the LLCC Jazz Band. A few examples include the LLCC Foundation's Winter Blues event and the annual Gala. When called upon he readily says YES, even though this requires additional practices and late nights. He is flexible and works within any parameters requested. His willingness to assist with our community events is appreciated! Kudos to Jason!

**Nominee: Laura Wethington, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid**

Nominator: Dawn Burch, Financial Aid Advisor, Financial Aid

For your dedication to financial aid and all the hard work you do each day. Thank you.

**Nominee: Amanda Wiesenhofer, Electronic Resources and Library Systems Administrator**

Nominator: Ryan Roberts, Librarian and Professor, Library

When faced with the news that the library website servers were failing and that the website required a complete and immediate transfer to a new hosting and design system, Amanda dedicated herself to solving the issue. The result is a website that maintains all the functionality and layout of the previous page, but with more flexibility to expand the site to meet student needs. Her determination, attention to detail and prioritization of students before all else deserves our collective thanks.

**Nominee: Amy Williams, Assistant to Vice President, Academic Services**

Nominator: Carmen Allen, Professor of Computer Programming, Business and Technologies

Amy volunteered her time, professionalism and hard work to support the Assessment Team with her expertise during the spring 2016 semester. Her help was very much appreciated.

**Nominee: Valerie Wright, Associate Dean of Nursing, Health Professions**

Nominator: Patty Petersen, Program Assistant, and Ashley Miller, Administrative Assistant, Health Professions

With a smile on her face, kindness in her heart and a flower in her hair, Valerie Wright comes to LLCC each day to serve the students in the nursing program. She is a student advocate and truly cares about their success. She invites students to share their ideas and feedback and gives them a voice in their education. Her upbeat and high-energy personality make her a joy to work with. She exudes positivity and kindness and leads by example. Whether it be plastering the hallways and office walls with neon pink congratulation posters or taking the time to write out special cards, she goes above and beyond to celebrate others and their successes. She throws compliments like confetti and makes each day colorful. Thanks for all that you do, Valerie Wright!