

Lincoln Land Community College



December 2021 Award Winners

Nominee: Kim Alexander, Accessibility Specialist

Nominator: Anonymous

It is just important to say THANK YOU for supports and services provided to students and staff. Kim is appreciated each and every day for not only individual work with students, but the "behind the scenes" tech support, knowledge and insights. Kim makes a difference at LLCC!

Nominee: Sue Alexander, Adult Education Coordinator

Nominator: Marybeth Hentrich, Adult Education Coordinator

Sue is an excellent teammate! She is willing to jump in and help when she can ... even if it's short notice! There was an event, and students needed to be contacted rather quickly. She got started right away. She also comes in with a great attitude and a smile. She does what she can to help any student that walks in the door. She is very much appreciated!

Nominee: Shawn Allen, Records Coordinator

Nominator: Anonymous

Shawn has been incredibly gracious to serve as a point of contact for students who are looking to get started at LLCC. She is so helpful and welcoming. When they get connected to more onboarding support, they are already in a great mood. What a joy to work with!

Nominee: Vanessa Avery, Administrative Assistant, LLCC-Beardstown

Nominator: Bree McClenning, Education Services Representative, LLCC-Beardstown

Kudos to Vanessa Avery for all that she does at LLCC's Beardstown location! I am a new ESR for LLCC-Beardstown, and she has been very patient and attentive as I learn the ropes — all the while, doing all that she does! From what I can tell, it's a lot! She is there for the needs of the student and anyone else who walks through the door. I am happy to be learning from someone with all of her knowledge and dedication. Thank you!

Nominee: Chris Barry, Director, Student Transitions

Nominator: Alison Mills, Director, Financial Aid

LLCC Financial Aid recently created a Tik Tok video to promote the opening of the 2022-23 FAFSA. Chris clucked with enthusiasm at the opportunity to be the lone chicken standing. His rendition of the chicken dance was amazing, and I'm honestly not sure how it didn't go viral. The video wouldn't have been the same without his participation. Thank you!

Nominee: Sandy Bonn, Monograph Specialist, Library

Nominator: Anonymous

Thank you for your dedication to the LLCC Library. Your reliability, industriousness, attention to detail and kind spirit are beyond compare. Before retirement you vowed to see us through Voyager to Alma/Primo VE migration and touch every book one last time, and, in typical Sandy fashion, you stood by your word and completed these tasks in record time. Whether near or far, good or bad (wink), you will forever be a part of the LLCC Library family! Z693-695.83

Nominee: Julie Brennan, Assistant Professor of Computer Science

Nominator: Linda Brown, Adjunct Instructor

Thank you for teaching colleagues how to use Teams as well as illustrating its use within online courses.

Nominee: Mackenzie Bryant, Program Assistant, Student Success

Nominator: Alison Mills, Director, Financial Aid

Mackenzie was brave enough to wear a chicken mask to attract students' attention for participation in our FAFSA completion event. We appreciated Mackenzie's "eggcitement" and enthusiasm for FAFSA completion. Thank you!

Nominee: Mackenzie Bryant, Program Assistant, Student Success

Nominator: April Bergman, Program Assistant, Student Success

Mackenzie has been floating between LLCC Student Services, Student Success and Student Life for quite some time now. Today, Student Success had a last-minute need for front desk backup, and Mackenzie stepped up. This is not unusual as she is always coming to the rescue in a positive and willing manner. I greatly appreciate her taking on so many roles and being a positive influence in our office.

Nominee: Mackenzie Bryant, Program Assistant, Student Success

Nominator: Kyle Roughan, Student Engagement Coordinator

For the past few months, Mackenzie has been unbelievably helpful in assisting LLCC Student Life in its day-to-day activities. From covering the front desk, to assisting with program setup and breakdown, Mackenzie has been a true lifesaver as the office navigated these last few months. I am truly grateful to be able to call her a colleague.

Nominee: Philip Burnett, Facilities Maintenance Technician

Nominator: Leigh Giles-Brown, Program Director, Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Thank you for your exceptional assistance with setting up the new DMS program lab space. Delivering cabinets, installing locks on them, searching out keys and hanging the scan bay curtains all were very helpful, and our DMS lab is much more organized and functional because of your good work.

Nominee: Debra Coet, Academic Success Professional

Nominator: Emily Smith, Recruitment Specialist

I was showing a group from Springfield Learning Academy around campus. We were in the LLCC Center for Academic Success going over the great resources that will be available to them as future LLCC students. Debra stepped in at the end to say hi to the group, introduce herself and give a little bit of background on what she does/how she can help students. Thank you for making the students feel welcomed, Debra! We love when LLCC staff members interact with tours!

Nominee: Mary Dellert, Executive Assistant to the President/Secretary to the Board of Trustees

Nominator: Lynn Whalen, Chief Communications Officer

For stepping in to assist PRM in the absence of an assistant and at a very busy time preparing for a website launch. Your efficiency and "I'll take care of it" attitude is so very appreciated.

Nominee: Rachel Duff, Campus Health and Wellness Coordinator

Nominator: Mary Goldstein, Professor of Nursing

Rachel does a great job tracking all of the COVID information for the campus. She has been very helpful to me and my students, keeping track of which students need to stay home and keeping me informed. The students have mentioned that they appreciate her quick responses (even at night and weekends) regarding their concerns!

Nominee: Jeff Eason, Help Desk Specialist

Nominator: Nikki Baker, Adjunct Instructor

Jeff responded to a call for help by attending a class of College Now students and helping high school students to access LLCC resources from their Chrome books. Some of the students had attempted their own fixes, and he helped them walk it back and make successful access. Jeff brought reference sheets for students and then personally helped them when they hit roadblocks. He responded to questions so positively, he encouraged perseverance.

Nominee: Kim Eddings, Accessibility Services Coordinator

Nominator: Claire Heffron-Mckinney, Student Success Coach

I have known Kim for the entire time I've worked at LLCC. She is a tireless supporter of students and always goes above and beyond to assist students in meeting their needs and reaching their goals. Thanks, Kim, for all you do!

Nominee: Foundation Staff

Nominator: Claire Heffron-Mckinney, Student Success Coach

I want to thank Karen Sanders and her entire staff in the LLCC Foundation for their support of students. They always go out of their way to assist students and have helped so many students in emergency situations in the last 15 years I have worked with them. They truly support LLCC's mission.

Nominee: Misty Hagstrom, Graphic Design Specialist

Nominator: Lynn Whalen, Chief Communications Officer

For her dedication, talented artist's eye, attention to detail and willingness to work extra hours to complete the task of launching LLCC's new website. She did this while also co-chairing the "On My Own Time" exhibition for everyone on campus to enjoy.

Nominee: Elaine Higgason, Program Assistant, Accessibility Services

Nominator: Anonymous

Elaine is a valued and consistent team member within the LLCC Center for Academic Success. Specifically, Elaine has guided processes and procedures for Accessibility Services, and this contribution is so appreciated. It is so important to recognize Elaine's effectiveness, efficiency and overall positivity as such an asset to our students and college!

Nominee: Casey Hoenes, Assistant Professor of Nursing

Nominator: Anonymous

Thanks for helping me out on Saturdays.

Nominee: Dee Hood, Assistant Professor of Nursing

Nominator: Dr. Amanda Roche, Professor of Nursing

Thank you for being a team player and covering a clinical. You're the best.

Nominee: Bridgette Hudson, Nursing Instructor

Nominator: Anonymous

Thanks for all your support this term! You are the best.

Nominee: Cathy Huffman, Career Coach

Nominator: Carley Young, Student Success Coach

Cathy recently helped LLCC Student Success with our assessment efforts by leading two virtual focus groups of LLCC students. We would not have been able to conduct the focus groups without her assistance. Thank you, Cathy!

Nominee: Dr. Joi Kazenski, Professor of Nursing

Nominator: Anonymous

Thank you so much for all the support.

Nominee: Rebecca Klatt, Professor of Reading

Nominator: Anonymous

The LLCC Writing Center would like to recognize Professor Rebecca Klatt for volunteering to participate in our embedded tutoring pilot program this semester with her EGL 101 course. Her participation in this pilot has helped us gather valuable data about how we can better meet our students where they are and help them improve essential college success skills through writing.

Nominee: Kyla Kruse, Director, Communications

Nominator: Lynn Whalen, Chief Communications Officer

For her leadership and unrivaled dedication to launching an outstanding new website for the college.

Nominee: Brenda Loschen, Administrative Assistant to the Dean, Arts and Communication

Nominator: Dr. Joel Dykstra, Dean, English and Humanities

Brenda assisted in numerous ways while the administrative assistant for LLCC English and Humanities was out. Her knowledge of Colleague and college procedures was helpful in getting a number of issues resolved.

Nominee: Dr. Brenda Michel, Professor of Nursing

Nominator: Anonymous

Thanks for all of your great support.

Nominee: Jeni Noble, Adjunct Instructor, Nursing

Nominator: Anonymous

Thanks for all of your great support.

Nominee: Caitlin Perry, Website and Social Media Writing Coordinator

Nominator: Lynn Whalen, Chief Communications Officer

For her dedication, attention to detail, strong writing skills and work ethic in bringing the new college website to launch.

Nominee: Kyle Roughan, Student Engagement Coordinator

Nominator: Alison Mills, Director, Financial Aid

Kyle assisted LLCC Financial Aid staff with two of our FAFSA completion events. He assisted with ordering food and even worked the event with our staff (one of which was an evening event)! We really appreciated collaborating with Kyle and Student Life on these events. Thank you!

Nominee: Dr. Karen Sisk, Assistant Professor of English

Nominator: Anonymous

The LLCC Writing Center would like to recognize Assistant Professor Karen Sisk for volunteering to participate in our embedded tutoring pilot program this semester with her EGL 100 course. Her participation in this pilot has helped us gather valuable data about how we can better meet our students where they are and help them improve essential college success skills through writing.

Nominee: Emily Smith, Recruitment Specialist

Nominator: Lynn Whalen, Chief Communications Officer

For taking on additional tasks in coordinating Campus Visit Day and LLCC-Medical District recruitment events, relaying interesting stories of LLCC faculty and staff, and adding a bright voice and perspective to the LLCC Podcast.

Nominee: Bert Sneyd, Program Assistant, Adult Education

Nominator: Marybeth Hentrich, Adult Education Coordinator

Bert needs a cape because she saves the day not only at work but outside of work — many times. She came and saved me when my car broke down! And made calls to help me get it taken care of. She goes above and beyond more than I can count! Thanks, Bert!

Nominee: Leslie Stalter, Professor of Art

Nominator: Anonymous

The LLCC Writing Center would like to recognize Professor Leslie Stalter for volunteering to participate in our embedded tutoring pilot program this semester with her ART 204 course. Her participation in this pilot has helped us gather valuable data about how we can better meet our students where they are and help them improve essential college success skills through writing.

Nominee: Dr. Colin Suchland, Professor of Sociology

Nominator: Anonymous

The LLCC Writing Center would like to recognize Professor Colin Suchland for volunteering to participate in our embedded tutoring pilot program this semester with his SOC 101 course. His participation in this pilot has helped us gather valuable data about how we can better meet our students where they are and help them improve essential college success skills through writing.

Nominee: Greg Walbert, Graphic Design Manager

Nominator: Lynn Whalen, Chief Communications Officer

For taking over duties so others could work on the new website, serving on the Web Team from the beginning and overseeing the selection of photos and videos that add new dimensions to the college's web experience.

Nominee: Jud Walker, Facilities Maintenance Technician

Nominator: Leigh Giles-Brown, Program Director, Diagnostic Medical Sonography

Thank you for your exceptional assistance with setting up the new DMS program lab space. Delivering cabinets, installing locks on them, searching out keys and hanging the scan bay curtains all were very helpful, and our DMS lab is much more organized and functional because of your good work.

Nominee: Holly Walton, Purchasing Coordinator

Nominator: Tamie Penning, System Administrator I

As someone who does not enter requisitions on a regular basis, I had numerous questions about a particular requisition I was working on. Holly guided me through the process while answering the multitude of questions I sent her way.

Nominee: Mac Warren, Assistant Director, Recruitment and Response

Nominator: Lynn Whalen, Chief Communications Officer

For his dedication to seeing the Salesforce project through to completion and working with others across the college to coordinate Salesforce use along with recruitment efforts.

Nominee: Lindsey Weihmeir, Admission Specialist

Nominator: Anonymous

Lindsey went above and beyond to meet with a new student to get started so they didn't have to wait. She stepped right in at the last minute and provided excellent guidance and support. #missionmoment

Nominee: Thom Whalen, Professor of Art

Nominator: Misty Hagstrom, Graphic Design Specialist and Lindee Hall, Curriculum Specialist

We would like to extend a big thank you to Thom for his assistance in installing the 2021 On My Own Time LLCC exhibit, as well as for making the wall sign. His unwavering support of the program and his willingness to help us on “his” own time was very much appreciated!

Nominee: Kim Williams-Wilson, Recruitment Specialist

Nominator: Lynn Whalen, Chief Communications Officer

For continuously seeking new partnerships for the college within District 186 and the community, for stepping in to assist with PR during the sculpture dedication and stepping up to coordinate recruitment events.