

Lincoln Land Community College



## October 2023 Award Winners

**Nominee: Debbie Bell, Custodial Operations Supervisor**

Nominator: Anonymous

Debbie helped our office find safety vests to use as props in the Cardboard Regatta.

**Nominee: Debbie Bell, Custodial Operations Supervisor**

Nominator: Amber Babbs, Program Assistant, Nursing

The PCN program recently had our first pinning ceremony. Debbie took time out of her day to meet with me to go over several options for setting up for the ceremony. She kept me informed on the progress and even checked in with me afterwards to make sure everything went smoothly. Debbie, thank you so much for all your help and dedication to the PCN program and to our newly graduated students!

**Nominee: Debbie Bell, Custodial Operations Supervisor**

Nominator: Nick Ferreira, Program Director, Emergency Services & Health

When I noticed that the EMS lab was looking pretty badly in terms of flooring, I asked Debbie to take a look. Debbie inspected the area and quickly scheduled a date/time that would work for students, so as not to impact their access to the lab. Her group was able to get the lab completed as promised, and it looks great. She was helped by Danny Jett and Kevin Hackwith. KUDOS to them as well!

**Nominee: Megan Bierbrodt, Program Assistant, WEI**

Nominator: Sierra Peterson, Program Navigator, WEI

Megan has been an amazing person to work with. She connects with our students so well and has been doing a great job!

**Nominee: Kristin Booher, Director, Student Engagement**

Nominator: Marina Wirsing, Career Coach, Advancement

Kristin has done an amazing job engaging students, faculty and staff as the new director of student engagement. Her assistance and creativity working with the Summer Career Launch Program for the Boys & Girls Club of Central Illinois contributed to the fun and success of the program. She is a joy to work with, and her tireless dedication is contagious!

**Nominee: Kristin Booher, Mion Denton and Marina Wirsing**

Nominator: Leslie Johnson, Assistant Vice President, Student Success

LLCC collaborates with the Boys & Girls Club of Central Illinois to host Career Launch every summer. Kristin, Mion and Marina deserve kudos for ensuring the 2023 Career Launch was a success. They served on the planning group, chaperoned several days and facilitated the opening and closing sessions. They exemplified LLCC's values, especially Diversity and Equity, Collaboration, and Teaching and Learning. I appreciate their willingness to help with these events!

**Nominee: Mackenzie Bryant, Kathi Frieden, Lynn Gerton, Kerry Harden, Jeff Martin, Shelly Smothers, Mac Warren and Kim Wilson**

Nominator: Dr. Joel Dykstra, Associate Vice President, Academic Services

Mackenzie, Kathi, Lynn, Kerry, Jeff, Shelly, Mac and Kim graciously stepped in to assist with dual credit student registration. Their efforts helped the college register a large number of dual credit students on time.

**Nominee: Dave Cox, Professor, Biology**

Nominator: Laurie Rhodes, Director, Child Development Center

Dave came over to the Child Development Center and gave a wonderful presentation to the children about bees. The children were able to see the bees in the observation hive, tasted some honey, found the queen and asked lots of questions. Dave, you made a big impression on the children. I even heard some telling their parents as they left that night that we should not pick dandelions because the bees need them for food. Thank you!

**Nominee: Brandon Davis, Alex Dean, Kathi Frieden, Megan Hallberg and Chelsy Lovelace**

Nominator: Robin Ackman, Shawn Allen and Kelly Ellis, Records

Brandon, Alex, Kathi, Megan and Chelsy recently assisted the records office by packaging diplomas for our spring 2023 graduates and getting them in the mail. This is a very time-consuming task, but one of most rewarding for our students when they receive their diploma in the mail. We are extremely grateful to them for their help with this project!

**Nominee: Alex Dean, Student Support Specialist**

Nominator: Robin Ackman, Shawn Allen and Kelly Ellis, Records

The records office had an abundance of college transcripts that needed to be posted to students' records. Alex so graciously agreed to assist us in posting the transcripts, even though he had a heavy

workload himself. We are grateful to Alex for his assistance!

**Nominee: Mion Denton, Program Assistant, Student Life**

Nominator: Shanda Byer, Vice President, Student Services

Mion came through in a pinch! When the Governor's office asked to have area mascots attend the state fair, Mion volunteered to get Linc to the fair and did an amazing job! Linc attended the Governor's press conference and had their photo taken with the Governor. Linc also enjoyed some of the fair favorites. It was a hot day, but Mion did not disappoint in making sure that Linc made a GREAT showing!

**Nominee: Dr. Joel Dykstra, Associate Vice President, Academic Services**

Nominator: Jessie Blackburn, Director, LLCC-Litchfield

Kudos for all his hard work in developing a new dual credit process to use with our LLCC high school students to register them for classes. Part of this process included him developing an awesome new application which cut down the number of steps needed and barriers we have experienced in the past. In addition, he made sure each outreach center was given new technology needed to make everything run smoothly and efficiently! We appreciate you, Joel!

**Nominee: Tim Ervin, Director, Construction & Environmental, Health & Safety**

Nominator: Anonymous

Tim assisted our office by loaning us safety hats so we could use them as props at the Cardboard Regatta.

**Nominee: Nick Ferreira, Program Director, Emergency Services & Health**

Nominator: Anonymous

Recently, Nick stepped in to help students who did not have the correct location for their course. He went out of his way to see that each of the students were able to take the proper certifications, preventing them from missing out on classes, clinicals or work. Way to go above and beyond for LLCC students!

**Nominee: Adrienne Frazier, Education Services Representative, LLCC-Litchfield**

Nominator: Jessie Blackburn, Director, LLCC-Litchfield

For her work in helping us complete the dual credit registrations for the high schools affiliated with LLCC-Litchfield, and for holding down the fort to provide quality services for our LLCC-Litchfield students while other staff were out visiting the high schools. She is awesome, and we couldn't have done this without her!

**Nominee: Jamie Glick and Marcy Koches**

Nominator: Dee Krueger, Director, LLCC-Taylorville

Kudos to Jamie and Marcy for all their hard work in registering dual credit students at the high schools affiliated with LLCC-Taylorville. They are awesome, and their time and help made the whole process go so smoothly!

**Nominee: Dr. Bryan Goers, Associate Vice President, Enrollment Management**

Nominator: Dr. Joel Dykstra, Associate Vice President, Academic Services

Bryan assisted Academic Services in designing a process for registering dual credit students that allowed the college to register a large number of these students on time, resulting in an increase in reported enrollment numbers.

**Nominee: Dr. Bryan Goers, Associate Vice President, Enrollment Management**

Nominator: Anonymous

Bryan has gone above and beyond to reimagine many processes on campus. The automation of several processes will decrease errors and increase our ability to be agile. While change is difficult, the new processes are a positive step into the future.

**Nominee: Sarah Goodman, Director, Business & Accounting**

Nominator: Anonymous

Sarah has been meticulous in working on the Early Childhood Education grant. She is always willing to think about what could work, while keeping us on track with what is within the bounds of the grant.

**Nominee: Tim Humphrey, Professor, Political Science & Education**

Nominator: Dr. Kalith Smith, Dean, Social Sciences & Business

Tim has been instrumental in the reimagining of the Teacher Education Pipeline (TEP) program. Last year we didn't have enough students for the program, but this year we have 24 future teachers in the program! As we work to build out beyond our current partnership with District 186, Riverton, Williamsville and Tri-City, he is forging the path.

**Nominee: Carrie Jacobs, Administrative Assistant to the Dean, Health Professions**

Nominator: Amber Babbs, Program Assistant, Nursing

Carrie is a lifesaver! She was willing to help in any way needed with the recent PCN pinning ceremony. She took care of ordering refreshments and awards and most importantly, stepped up and filled in for someone as part of the ceremony. Carrie always rolls with the punches and is there when needed. I'm so blessed to have her on my team. Thank you, Carrie!

**Nominee: Carrie Jacobs, Administrative Assistant to the Dean, Health Professions**

Nominator: Anonymous

Thank you for all you do. I know I can always count on you, even if it is a last-minute request!

**Nominee: Leslie Johnson, Assistant Vice President, Student Success**

Nominator: Shanda Byer, Vice President, Student Services

Recognizing the high-stress time in Student Services the week before the fall semester begins, Leslie created a "Take 5" room for staff to enjoy and unwind. Converting a classroom into a relaxation room, Leslie stocked the room with a massage chair, snacks, puzzles, games and activities. The Take 5 room provided a place for staff to step away from the action for lunch or a quick break. It was a great idea and a huge success!

**Nominee: Tiffany Luxner, Accounting Specialist**

Nominator: Nichole Coffey, Student Accounts Manager, Finance

Tiffany is always willing to jump in and help where needed. I can't say how much I appreciate all she does for the Student Accounts team. Tiffany's kind demeanor and easy-going personality make her an absolute pleasure to work with. Go Tiffany!

**Nominee: Tiffany Luxner, Accounting Specialist**

Nominator: Alison Mills, Assistant Vice President, Financial Aid

Tiffany assisted our department with generating and creating a list of IDs for us to use in a saved list. When I asked Tiffany if she could simplify lists, without hesitation, she said yes and had the information to us in a matter of minutes. I appreciate Tiffany going out of her way to help make the process easier for us and save us time. Thanks, Tiffany!

**Nominee: Christine Marietta, Administrative Assistant, LLCC-Litchfield**

Nominator: Jessie Blackburn, Director, LLCC-Litchfield

For all her hard work and time spent going above and beyond to organize and help complete the dual credit registrations for high schools affiliated with LLCC-Litchfield. She is a superstar, and we could not have done it without her!

**Nominee: Katie McDannald, Administrative Assistant, LLCC-Jacksonville**

Nominator: Keri Mason, Director, LLCC-Jacksonville

Thank you so much to Katie for helping to organize and dual credit registrations. It's a crazy time of year, and her help is much appreciated!

**Nominee: Tisha Miller, Enrollment Coordinator, LLCC-Taylorville & LLCC-Litchfield**

Nominator: Jessie Blackburn, Director, LLCC-Litchfield

For all her time and work to visit all the high schools affiliated with LLCC-Litchfield and Taylorville to complete dual credit registrations. She did extra traveling and class visits to help make sure everything was done and students' questions were answered. We couldn't have finished it so efficiently without her!

**Nominee: Amanda Peabody, Travis Rath, Libby Tennikait and Kim Young**

Nominator: Bridgette Hudson, Instructor, Nursing

Thank you for all your time and hard work in putting together the ADN Bootcamp!

**Nominee: Lori Large Oldenettel, Enrollment Coordinator, LLCC-Jacksonville**

Nominator: Keri Mason, Director, LLCC-Jacksonville

A huge thank you to Lori for her help with dual credit registrations at the high schools and help with follow up after. I appreciate you so much!

**Nominee: Lucas Ostendorf, Police Officer**

Nominator: Anonymous

Officer Ostendorf saved the day when I locked the keys in my car recently. It was such a hot day, and my car was not under the shade of a tree, but that didn't deter him! He had a mission to help this damsel in distress and that is just what he did! Thank you, Officer, your efforts in the heat that day were so very much appreciated!

**Nominee: Samantha Reif, Professor, Geology**

Nominator: Mackenzie Bryant, Recruitment Specialist, Recruitment & Admission

This year at the state fair, our display needed to be educational and interactive. Sam was the first professor to volunteer her time and activities and with her collaboration, we decided on a "Rocks to Workforce" theme. I appreciate Sam's willingness to trade valuable weekend time for an afternoon at the state fair. Her dedication to the college shows by stepping out of the classroom and into the community to recruit. Thanks for your participation, Sam!

**Nominee: Jennifer Roberts, Accounts Receivable Collection Technician**

Nominator: Nichole Coffey, Student Accounts Manager, Finance

Jennifer has transformed the finance department with her positive and uplifting demeanor. If you walk into the finance department, you are immediately greeted with a smiling face. This is so important in our work, as most students who make their way to us are in some sort of dilemma. Jennifer stays cool, calm

and collected during times of chaos and constant interruption. Thanks for being you, Jennifer! You are a great asset to our team and the students we serve!

**Nominee: Robert Schuerman, Property Control Technician**

Nominator: Anonymous

Robert is always very responsive to any email or requests that I have for him, as well as friendly and positive. He takes great care of any vehicle requests that I have and supplies that our department needs. He definitely goes above and beyond. Thanks Robert!

**Nominee: Matt Shaver, Professor, Integrated Media Design**

Nominator: Dr. Karen Sisk, Professor, English

For his dedication to and hard work on all things assessment.

**Nominee: Lindsay Shelton, Program Navigator, PATH**

Nominator: Sierra Peterson, Program Navigator, WEI

Lindsay has been an amazing addition to the PATH staff. We are very lucky to have her here!

**Nominee: Shelly Smothers, Admissions Specialist**

Nominator: Anonymous

Shelly does an amazing job of jumping in on tasks (some much larger than others) that need to be taken care of. She looks for ways to make things more efficient for all of those helping. She puts her whole heart into it and always keeps a smile on her face. Thanks for being a great coworker, Shelly!

**Nominee: Tom Spears, Workforce Development Program Coordinator**

Nominator: Dr. Chris McDonald, Rebecca Miller and Dr. Mark Roehrs, Social Sciences and Business

Tom does an awesome job running the community garden and making it work for all of us. He is always going above and beyond to improve the facilities and allow us the opportunity to garden on campus.

**Nominee: Dr. Sonja Spencer, Associate Dean, Health Professions**

Nominator: Casey Hoenes, Assistant Professor, Nursing

Sonja always and promptly responds to emails and phone calls. She always puts the interest of her faculty above anything else. She communicates clearly with me when I have questions. I wanted to say how much I appreciate having Sonja as a dean!

**Nominee: Libby Tennikait, Academic Success Professional**

Nominator: Bridgette Hudson, Instructor, Nursing

Thank you for all your time and hard work in putting together the ADN Bootcamp!

**Nominee: Binh Trinh, IT Specialist**

Nominator: Amber Babbs, Program Assistant, Nursing

A big thank you to Binh for all his help during the PCN pinning ceremony. He met with me beforehand to go over computer and music issues. He was also at the ceremony running the computer and music, which was so helpful. My mind was at ease knowing he was there. Thank you, Binh!

**Nominee: Lindsey Weihmeir, Registration Manager**

Nominator: Dr. Joel Dykstra, Associate Vice President, Academic Services

Lindsey assisted the team that was helping to enroll dual credit students by providing insight and assistance with the registration of students.

**Nominee: Doug Whitaker, Maintenance Operations Supervisor**

Nominator: Rebecca Klatt, Professor, English

One hundred degrees of thanks to Doug Whitaker and his team for identifying the air conditioning issue in Menard Hall and repairing it quickly the first week of classes! When I get hot, I get crabby, and so Doug is personally responsible for saving my students from my prolonged complaining. Thanks to Doug and Facilities Services for all the work they do behind the scenes that enable me to do my job comfortably.

**Nominee: Amy Williams, Academic Services Coordinator**

Nominator: Dr. Joel Dykstra, Associate Vice President, Academic Services

Amy stepped in to handle curriculum coordinator duties and help the college process a large number of curriculum proposals. Her efforts allowed the process to continue smoothly during a time of transition.

**Nominee: Kim Young, Program Assistant, Nursing**

Nominator: Amber Babbs, Program Assistant, Nursing

I'm not even sure where to begin to thank Kim for all the help she was to me while planning for the PCN pinning ceremony. Since this was our first ceremony, I had no idea where to begin. Kim stepped right up and offered any help I needed. Kim, thank you so much for training me on all the ins and outs of planning a pinning ceremony! Without you, I would have been lost. I am so thankful you're on my team!