

Lincoln Land Community College



December 2024 Award Winners

Nominee: Sarah Beggs, Enrollment Services Representative

Nominator: Anonymous

Sarah consistently goes above and beyond, always being the first to volunteer, organize and ensure the success of every event they are involved in. Whether it's planning activities, coordinating logistics or offering a helping hand wherever it's needed, Sarah's enthusiasm inspires others to get involved.

Nominator: Anonymous

Kudos for always stepping up, lending a helping hand and going above and beyond.

Nominator: Anonymous

Sarah used her gift of hospitality to make our new space in the Student Services Hub more welcoming for staff. Additionally, she coordinated the welcome/thank you Student Services potluck and Thanksgiving luncheon for students.

Nominator: Anne Armbruster, Director, TRIO

Sarah did an awesome job organizing the Student Services Thanksgiving Dinner on Nov. 22! Everyone talked about how good the food was, and everything ran smoothly. The students appreciated the food and the opportunity to socialize. Thank you, Sarah!

Nominee: Debbie Bell, Custodial Operations Supervisor

Nominator: Crystal Norris, Administrative Assistant Dean of Social Sciences and Business

Kudos to Debbie Bell and LLCC Facilities Services for their exceptional support in setting up for the many events I've had scheduled recently! Debbie consistently goes above and beyond, always ensuring that everything is set up perfectly, and that no detail is overlooked. I truly appreciate how Debbie reaches out to make sure everything is in place, making each event run smoothly. Thank you for your dedication and hard work!

Nominee: Dr. Amy Branham, Assistant Professor, Nursing

Nominator: Dr. Amanda Roche, Professor, Nursing

Thank you for all the hard work you put in daily to make the program a success. You are a great team player!

Nominee: Shanda Byer, Vice President, Student Services

Nominator: Sarah Beggs, Enrollment Services Representative

A huge shoutout to Shanda for going above and beyond at the Student Thanksgiving Dinner! Not only did she cook two turkeys (and other delicious dishes) on her day off, but she also volunteered to serve with a smile. Shanda, your guidance, encouragement and heart for helping others truly made a difference. Thank you for being such a generous and uplifting presence. We couldn't have done it without you!

Nominee: Nancy Brawner, General Merchandise Technician

Nominator: Anonymous

Nancy thoroughly enjoys her position with LLCC, and that shows through her continued displays of help and affection to the students that she greets in the LLCC Bookstore every day. She knows each student comes with an important personal mission when they walk through those doors, and she makes it her mission to see it to completion with satisfaction and joy. Her attention to and bond with students with special needs is exceptional.

Nominee: Kaja Carter, Enrollment Services Representative

Nominator: Sarah Beggs, Enrollment Services Representative

A big thank you to Kaja for providing the music at the Student Thanksgiving Dinner and for being so flexible throughout the event! Your playlist set the perfect mood, and your adaptability made everything run smoothly. We're so grateful for your energy and for making the event even more enjoyable. Thank you, Kaja!

Nominee: Rick Cook, Grounds Maintenance Worker

Nominator: Luke Wright, Facilities Services

Rick goes above and beyond to make sure the grounds in his area look amazing. It's been awesome working alongside him! Also, a big thank you to him for helping with the setup of the LLCC Cardboard Boat Regatta!

Nominee: Brandon Davis, Enrollment Services Representative

Nominator: Sarah Beggs, Enrollment Services Representative

A huge thank you to Brandon for handling the raffle at the Student Thanksgiving Dinner and for being so flexible throughout the event! Your efforts kept everything running smoothly, and your positive attitude made it all the more enjoyable. We really appreciate you stepping in and making the raffle a success. Thank you, Brandon!

Nominee: Alex Dean, Student Support Specialist

Nominator: Crystal Norris, Administrative Assistant to the Dean, Social Sciences and Business

Kudos to Alex Dean for their invaluable help in creating the Honors midterm grade check form! This tool has made the process so much easier for students, faculty and myself, streamlining everything and

saving us all time. Your effort and expertise are truly appreciated. Thank you for making such a positive impact!

Nominator: Lindsay Shelton, PATH Program Navigator

Alex goes above and beyond to support PATH, TRiO and WEI students. He builds great rapport with the students who need his support. He is always willing to assist other program staff, especially if it will ensure efficiency.

Nominee: Kelly Ellis, Student Records Evaluator

Nominator: Sarah Beggs, Enrollment Services Representative

I just have to take a moment to thank Kelly for being an absolute rock star at the Student Thanksgiving Dinner. Not only did she keep the food organized like a culinary general, but she also tackled the dishes like a champion. Seriously, I think she washed enough to qualify for dishwasher Olympic gold! Kelly, you were the behind-the-scenes hero of the day, and I couldn't have done it without you. Thank you for everything. You're the real MVP (Most Valuable Plate-scrubber)!

Nominee: Shawn Floyd, Course Materials Coordinator

Nominator: Anonymous

Shawn continues to help expand awareness of the LLCC Health Professions programs through her effortless helpful attitude and demeanor. She doesn't know a stranger and finds honest, open relationships through taking the time to make herself available to any of the students under her purview. She cares for her students, and this has become apparent when they return semester and semester to catch up with her on their accomplishments in both their lives.

Nominee: Kathi Frieden, Enrollment Services Representative

Nominator: Sarah Beggs, Enrollment Services Representative

A huge thank you to Kathi for the beautiful decorations at the Student Thanksgiving Dinner! You truly transformed the space and brought such a warm, festive feel to the event. Your creativity and attention to detail made everything look amazing. Thank you for making the day extra special!

Nominee: Jeannette Garceau, Writing Center Specialist

Nominator: Alex Dean, Student Support Specialist

Jeannette took time out of her busy schedule to help with our workshop for PATH, TRiO and WEI students about writing essays for scholarships. We really appreciate the thought and effort she put into it for our students.

Nominee: Lynn Gerton, Concurrent Enrollment Coordinator

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

This year, Lynn took on all of the responsibility for coordinating the delivery dual credit T-shirts. She racked up many miles and spent a number of weeks driving all across her area of responsibility in the district to make sure all of the students received their shirts. Receiving a shirt from LLCC is a big deal for many of our dual credit students and instructors, and it is one way of helping them feel like LLCC

students.

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

Nominator: John Freml, Director, Faculty Development

Leigh has been a huge help over the past year in helping to deliver various faculty development offerings, including on Professional Development Day last spring and for our new faculty this semester. She has always gladly said "yes" when I ask for help. Additionally, she has been great to work with on various campus committees. Leigh always provides truthful, thoughtful perspective, and I have really enjoyed working with her!

Nominee: Megan Hallberg, Student Records Evaluator

Nominator: Sarah Beggs, Enrollment Services Representative

A big thank you to Megan for jumping in wherever help was needed at the Student Thanksgiving Dinner! Your flexibility and willingness to lend a hand made such a difference, and it didn't go unnoticed. You're a true team player, and we're so grateful for you!

Nominee: Kerry Harden, Administrative Assistant to the Dean, AleL

Nominator: John Freml, Director, Faculty Development

Kerry has been a huge help with planning and organizing our faculty development offerings this semester, especially Professional Development Day and new faculty programming. She is thoughtful and considerate when planning food for various events, ensuring that faculty with dietary considerations will be accommodated. I appreciate her willingness to always step up whenever needed, which helps me do my own job more effectively. Thanks for being awesome, Kerry!

Nominee: Andy Hemstock, Course Materials Coordinator

Nominator: Anonymous

Andy genuinely cares about the students in various LLCC Workforce Institute programs and feels inclusivity is important in making all students feel welcomed and part of the campus community. He has built great working relationships with the Workforce Institute instructors and staff and always has a smile and a joke to bring to any conversation. His caring and genuine attitude is infectious and makes others smile besides themselves.!

Nominee: Bobbi Henry, Research & Analytics Associate III

Nominator: Dr. Tricia Kujawa, AVP, Institutional Research and Effectiveness

The National Center of Education Statistics, part of the U.S. Department of Education, extends its appreciation to LLCC's IPEDS Keyholder Bobbi Henry. Three weeks prior to the close of the fall data collection, all required IPEDS surveys were entered, edited and locked. Providing IPEDS data is a major undertaking, and we truly appreciate the timely response..

Nominee: Dee Hood, Assistant Professor, Nursing

Nominator: Dr. Amanda Roche, Professor, Nursing

Thank you for covering the 232 clinical. You are a great team player!

Nominee: Cathy Huffman, Assistant Director, Career Center

Nominator: Rhilee Cochran, Career Coach

I'm so grateful to Cathy for making my recent transition into the Career Coach role feel seamless and enjoyable. Despite her already full schedule, she has gone out of her way to let me shadow her appointments, provide training, and offer thoughtful, kind feedback — all with a smile and a sense of humor. Her guidance, encouragement and organization have made such a difference, and I'm so glad to work alongside her!

Nominee: Anna King, Enrollment Services Representative

Nominator: Sarah Beggs, Enrollment Services Representative

A huge thank you to Anna for coordinating the crafts at the Student Thanksgiving Dinner! Your creativity and organization brought so much fun to the event, and it was such a hit with everyone. We truly appreciate all the effort you put into making it a memorable experience for all. Thank you, Anna!

Nominee: Ashley Krzesinski, Student Records Evaluator

Nominator: Sarah Beggs, Enrollment Services Representative

Huge thanks to Ashley for absolutely rocking the role of volunteer wrangler at the Student Thanksgiving Dinner! Your leadership was top-notch, your communication kept everything running like clockwork and let's not forget — you came in on your day off to make it all happen! And honestly, that purple clipboard deserves its own round of applause; it was practically a celebrity on its own. Ashley, you were the glue that held the team together, and I'm so grateful for your hard work and dedication. You're the best!

Nominee: Christine Marietta, Administrative Assistant, LLCC-Litchfield

Nominator: Claire Heffron-McKinney, Student Success Advisor

I met with a student on Nov. 7 that needed help securing a mattress and had no funds to do so. Within an hour of me posting the request for options and suggestions in Teams, Christine had a contact in the Hillsboro area for my student to connect with to receive assistance. Thank you, Christine!

Nominee: Dr. Chris McDonald, Professor, Political Science

Nominator: Anonymous

Chris works tirelessly on behalf of students, but most recently spent time with Honors in Kansas City, which included a 3 a.m. departure! Like many faculty, his work goes beyond the classroom and into making connections with students that last for years.

Nominee: Patty Mendoza, Director, Adult Education and Literacy

Nominator: Anonymous

Since day one of becoming the director of LLCC Adult Education, Patty has made a difference in a big way. She is a champion of the program and all of the Adult Ed students. Great job, Patty!

Nominee: Andy Mitkos, Director, Academic Technology Systems and Support

Nominator: Lisa Avendano, Writing Center Specialist

Andy has been especially helpful to the LLCC Writing Center while we are developing a new service for assisting students.

Nominator: Dr. Natasha Casey, Assistant Professor, Communication

I am piloting new software this semester, and it required jumping a few more hurdles than originally anticipated. Andy was very patient in helping me troubleshoot various recording and other technical issues over several meetings throughout the semester. His help is very much appreciated.

Nominee: Crystal Norris, Administrative Assistant to the Dean, SSBU

Nominator: Tara Walk, Professor, Criminal Justice

Crystal, a.k.a., Superwoman, is a true blessing to our department and college. She is always there to help and participates in activities all over campus. She is student-focused and beyond dedicated to the LLCC Social Sciences and Business Department.

Nominee: Samuel Dennis, Systems Administrator III

Nominator: Alison Mills, Assistant Vice President, Financial Aid

Samuel has been integral in migrating LLCC Student Services from Call Tower. He has spent hours reviewing poor quality call logs and hearing staff frustration. In our interim use of Teams for a call center solution, he has answered staff questions, found solutions to issues and created "how-to" guides to assist staff with the transition. We appreciate you and all your work, Samuel!

Nominee: Cheri Reardon, Director, Campus Services

Nominator: Anonymous

Cheri has found a solid place in her new position at LLCC and has proven to be a competent leader and source of positivity. Many faculty come to her with questions, knowing she will always have a smile on her face and a helpful and forward-thinking solution. She loves to laugh and makes her staff feel that they can approach her with troubleshooting and that her door is always open for them whenever they need.

Nominee: LLCC Registration

Nominator: Claire Heffron-McKinney, Student Success Advisor

I would like to say a heartfelt thankyou to all of the LLCC Registration/Enrollment Services team members and Registration Manager Lindsey Weihmeir. As Student Services has moved to the Hub, the enrollment service representatives have taken on a lot of new duties and tasks. They've done a great job with this, and despite having to handle multiple tasks, people and messages coming their way, have done so with dedication and passion for helping students. Thank you for all that you do!

Nominee: Ben Roth, Director, IT Systems

Nominator: Anonymous

I am honored to nominate Ben Roth, director of IT systems, for his tireless work in facilitating the successful launch of our recently renovated Student Services Hub. Ben's unwavering dedication and expert oversight were crucial in ensuring the seamless deployment and operation of advanced systems that power the new Hub. His commitment to excellence, strategic thinking and exceptional problem-solving skills played an essential role in overcoming challenges.

Nominee: Rick Schnetzler, Director, IT Support

Nominator: Anonymous

Rick Schnetzler, our director of IT support, deserves special recognition for his invaluable contributions to the successful launch of our newly renovated Student Services Hub. Rick's tireless dedication and technical expertise were instrumental in ensuring a smooth transition for both staff and students. His proactive problem-solving and ability to anticipate potential challenges were essential to the project's success.

Nominator: Dr. Natasha Casey, Assistant Professor, Communication

I am piloting new software this semester, and it required jumping a few more hurdles than originally anticipated. Rick was brilliant, not to mention patient in helping me problem-solve several technical issues, and I am very grateful as the pilot would not have been possible without his guidance, expertise and support.

Nominee: Matthew Shaver, Professor, Integrated Media Design

Nominator: Jazzy Quick Kennedy, Assistant Professor, Integrated Media Design

Matthew has completed an astounding amount of work toward the CourseTalk+ assessment tool. He constantly goes above and beyond in order to deliver a product that is easy to use and navigate. The work that he has done, largely unpaid, is the equivalent of a multimillion-dollar development organization.

Nominee: Jill Siebert, Scholarship Program Coordinator

Nominator: Alex Dean, Student Support Specialist

Jill took the time out of her busy schedule to help with our workshop for PATH, TRIO and WEI students, where she informed them of the Foundation scholarship application process and offered great insight into what is expected for this application. We really appreciate the thought and effort put into this for our students.

Nominee: Austin Simpson, Bookstore Stockroom Technician

Nominator: Anonymous

Austin is both friendly and helpful with his place at LLCC, making himself available not only on-call to bookstore staff but to any campus faculty or staff that comes in looking for a hand. He is thorough in his duties and always brings a positive attitude to each day.

Nominee: Dr. Karen Sisk, Professor, English

Nominator: Dr. David Leitner, Professor, English

Kudos to Karen for her amazing work as our department's assessment coordinator! She makes compelling and informative reports so we can continuously monitor and improve our teaching!

Nominee: Vicki Sutker, Academic Success Professional

Nominator: Anonymous

Vicki is such a positive presence in the LLCC Center for Academic Success! Her ability to assist students in the sciences and other content areas makes Vicki a true asset for LLCC's students. She is a pleasure to have as a team member!

Nominee: Natasha Trame, Professor, Psychology

Nominator: Anonymous

Thank you for caring about students and going above and beyond for them!

Nominee: Lindsey Weihmeir, Registration Manager

Nominator: Sarah Beggs, Enrollment Services Representative

A big thank you to Lindsey for all the amazing work in promoting the Student Thanksgiving Dinner! Your efforts in getting the word out helped make the event a success, and we're so grateful for your energy and creativity in spreading the word. You helped make sure no one missed out on this great event — thank you!

Nominee: Dr. Matthew Wiediger, Assistant Professor, Psychology

Nominator: Anonymous

Wanted to give a shout out to Dr. Wiediger for being so accommodating to students' needs and provoking students to critically think about societal issues.

Nominee: Kim Williams-Wilson, Recruitment Specialist

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

Kim recently helped facilitate a meeting with the administration at one of the high schools, which jump-started our efforts to include that high school in some new concurrent enrollment opportunities for their students. Kim helped set up a meeting very quickly and sat in on the meeting to provide some perspective.

Nominee: Stephanie Wilson, Webstore Technician

Nominator: Anonymous

Stephanie has always gone above and beyond her assigned duties to make the most out of her position. She has implemented new ideas on the bookstore's social media and continues to bring joy and a positive attitude to the campus community.