Congratulations to all of our Academic Affairs 2010-2011 Star Performers
Nydia Monica Rodriquez
Chinese Studies Program Coordinator, History

“Students come with worries and anxieties, some with tears, but they always leave with a smile, relief and satisfaction. She truly inspires students through her own perseverance, honesty and dedication.”

~Samuel Cha, Lecturer
Douglas Dutson
Human Resources Manager, Music

“He is profoundly aware of the problems that UCSD faces and has supported the progressive steps necessary to insure that our campus is diverse and that fairness be the guide to how our academic files are handled.”

~Lei Liang, Associate Professor
Susan Winchester
Financial/Human Resources Manager, Philosophy

“Susan supports the campus in ways that exceed expectations and result in unexpected positive outcomes that support the university's mission.”

~Debra Ambrose, Business Officer
Deborah Kammerer

Graduate Admissions Assistant, Office of Graduate Studies

“When current applicants are helped by Debi, they receive the most caring, thoughtful and effective guidance. She takes care of their needs, resolves any issues, and makes them feel appreciated and respected.”

~Giselle Van Luit, Grad Admissions Assistant
Sara Roxann Bedia
Program Representative, University Extension

“She is a driving force in the continuous fiscal growth of the Education Department, ensuring that the needs of teachers are addressed in these very trying times.”

~Morgan Appel, Director of Education
Daphne Pleasant
Cashier Manager, University Extension

“The events and activities Daphne has planned and executed have helped bring Extension employees together, whether it be serving our community, volunteering for special causes, or enjoying the camaraderie of co-workers at a holiday party or picnic.”

~John Daggett, Manager of Business Affairs
Alison Sanchirico

Fluency Dev Program Coordinator,
University Extension

“Her work provides not only important student employment opportunities on campus but also an excellent avenue for UCSD students to explore other cultures.”

~Lisa Kovacs-Morgan, Academic Coord
Katherine Sears
Marketing Representative, University Extension

“Katherine excels at building relationships that benefit the University... she is known for her creative, collaborative and can-do spirit and I'd like the larger UCSD community to share the pride that we feel for her many accomplishments.”

~Vicki Krantz, Director of Bus Mgmt Prog
Pepper Lane
Program Officer,
International Relations & Pacific Studies

“Volunteerism has been a part of Pepper’s core values long before she answered a call to service from the campus wide initiative...She is an asset to IR/PS beyond measure and I see her core spirit making a positive difference daily.”

~Amy Robinson, Project/Comm Manager
John "Jazz" Antonio
Programmer Analyst, Jacobs School of Engineering

"Jazz is thorough, tactful and timely. His capacity for listening to those he is assisting and understanding the issue at hand has helped him provide suggestions and solutions that are relevant and cost-saving."

~Lovella Cacho, Program Rep Supervisor
Yana Campen
Fiscal Assistant, Bioengineering

“She has brought new meaning to ‘customer service’ in that she has a ‘can do’ attitude even when faced with the intricacies of policies and procedures.”

~Irene Jacobo, Fiscal Manager
Laura Gracia
Graduate Coordinator, Bioengineering

“Not only is she a positive impact on our future leaders, her promise, hard work and dedication enables our University to make good on its diversity efforts and commitment.”

~Shankar Subramaniam, Professor/Chair
Betty Gunderson
Director of Student Affairs, Bioengineering

“She has spearheaded the development of practices to ensure the efficient operation of the office...Betty has also participated in the effort to develop the Undergraduate Academic Advising Council...this effort has led to greater communication amongst students”

~Steve Lopez, Business Officer
Margene Wight
Student Affairs Officer, Bioengineering

“Margene has served energetically and creatively in times when resources were limited, and when outsized student populations placed heavy and unrealistic demands on the advising staff.”
~David Gough, Professor
Vilma Chua

Staff Research Associate,
Chemistry and Biochemistry

“Vilma has been actively engaged in providing initiatives that result in substantial cost-effectiveness while supporting the University’s teaching mission. She has eliminated several financial obstacles and successfully kept our curriculum intact.”

~Suzanne Anderson, Dir Undergrad Tchg Labs

Academic Affairs 2010-2011 Star Performer
Marijana Vukovic

Staff Research Associate,
Chemistry and Biochemistry

“Marijana’s proactive approach has made a real difference in the quality of the educational experience we offer to our undergraduate students... In my 20 years at UCSD, Marijana is the absolute best lab support staff person that I have encountered.”

~Michael Sailor, Professor
Christopher Misleh

System Administrator,
Calit2

“Chris has demonstrated considerable self-motivation, discipline and the ability to think outside the box for innovative solutions to research infrastructure related problems.”

~Greg Hidley, Tech Director
Karen Stecher

Financial Analyst,
Calit2

“Karen’s positive, supportive, and professional attitude fosters the best working & learning environment for her staff and the rest of Calit2’s student, staff, and academics, and allows Calit2 to maintain fairness among a diverse staff.”

~Nancy Lee, Business Office Manager
Patricia Stone

Tour Director, Calit2

“Trish has worked with researchers to automate technology demonstrations, which allows her and her student workers to handle them instead of more costly research staff. This also results in a lessened demand on the researchers’ time, which they appreciate.”

~ Tad Reynales, Tech Infrastructure Manager
Amber O'Banion  
Senior Conflict of Interest Analyst, Conflict of Interest Office

“She has helped bring system-wide and national visibility to UCSD through her work with the Kuali Coeus Foundation as Co-Chair of the Development Committee and lead Subject Matter Expert (SME) for the Kuali Coeus Conflict of Interest Module.”

~Jason DeFay, Dir of Electronic Res Admin
John Kussmann
Programmer Analyst,
Office of Research Affairs

“John devises and openly shares better ways to structure our IT infrastructure and then works collaboratively to make those ideas, shaped by group input, a reality.”

~Harrison Watts, Web/Systems Developer
Ana Minvielle
Business Officer,
Center for Comparative Immigration Studies

“Ana wears the smile that brings vibrant life to the office. She is the voice that leads the crowd. She is the caretaker, the sage, and the scientist. She is the glue that holds CCIS together.”

~John Skrentney, Professor
Janet Shin
Business Officer,
Center for Human Development

“Her uncommon grasp of fiscal issues, extraordinary capacity for clear exposition of complex issues, and creativity at dealing with them, were all crucial ... precisely at the time of greatest uncertainty for the program.”

~Terry Jernigan & Farrell Ackerman, Professors
Jacqueline Tam
Program Representative, IICAS

“Jackie Tam is an outstanding UCSD staff employee who performed heroically this year...Jackie has done a masterful job of organizing the logistics of the “New Frontiers of Justice” Conference in a seamless fashion.”

~Gershon Shafir, Director of IICAS
Julie Vitale
Program Advisor, IICAS

“Julie doesn’t just “do her job” she is an employee who loves her job...Her hard work and dedication to the International Studies Program have provided the vital link that has kept the program growing.”

~Martha Salinas, Business Officer
Maria Luisa Flores

Administrative Specialist,
Institute for Neural Computation

“...[W]ith her ability to scrutinize the details for every situation, combined with the desire to save the department’s budget, she is able to keep track of the big picture and provide cost effectiveness as well.”

~Emelia Marapao, HR Administrative Analyst
Katherine Levy

Project Manager, IGCC

“Katherine’s skill and determined efforts have allowed me, my postdoctoral fellows, and my students to better realize our potential as researchers and policy advisors.”

~Eli Berman, Res Dir of Intl Security
Eva Thiveos
Project Assistant, IGCC

“She pays attention to details, knows about UC policies and procedures, understands risk management issues, is careful with budgetary items, and assists in executing events based on the high standards that IGCC is known to set.”

~Laura Martín, Conference/Events Coord

Academic Affairs 2010-2011 Star Performer
James Soe Nyun
Head, Music and Media Cataloging
UCSD Libraries

“I very much appreciate Jim’s thoughtful and sensitive leadership, particularly in this time of furloughs and fears, and I know that I can count on him for mature, expert, and well-reasoned actions.”

~Linda Barnhart, Head of Metadata Services
Lisette Reynolds-Slipper
Academic Personnel Analyst,
Div of Social Sciences, Dean's Office

“Lisette has a reputation of being honest and above reproach in all her interactions within the division. Her work ethic sets an example for her colleagues.”

~Barbara Fager, Business Officer
Susan Millen  
Program Coordinator,  
CREATE

“In every aspect of her job, she is conscientious, persistent, and thorough. Because of her maturity and interpersonal skills, she interacts easily with people in many different categories.”  
~Barbara Edwards, Director
Anna Lu Mcghee

Academic Personnel Coordinator, Education Studies

"Ms. Lu has provided extraordinary service to the community by creating a new campus organization that allows students, staff, alumni and community members to work together to address issues of poverty."

~Sarah Moulton, AP Analyst
Teresa Wassum
Fiscal Operations Manager, Psychology

“She is a relationship builder, resourceful knowledge seeker, optimist, and habitual process improver. Faculty describe her as: smart, responsible, knowledgeable, thorough, quick...a rockstar.”

~Peter Hinkley, Business Officer
Kelly Kauffman
Director of Network Operations, Rady School of Management

“... [H]e has continued to expand his knowledge and leverage it to continually improve the level of service that he provides in his role of stewarding Rady's Network Operations...Kelly also serves as a volunteer for San Diego's Trevor Project Council...to end suicide among LGBTQ youth.”

~Dean Olsen, Dir of Computing Tech Svcs
Gladys Selfridge
Dean's Executive Assistant,
Rady School of Management

“She is a person who believes in possibilities and takes the action needed to achieve goals - both for herself and others - and we are all richer for having her in our lives.”

~María Lofftus, Assistant Dean
Ashley Somers
Student Services Coordinator, Rady School of Management

“Ashley transformed this role to become a proactive partner, initiating dialogue when there was uncertainty, reaching out to faculty with recommendations, and solving problems on her own.”

~Terrence August, Assistant Professor
Ashley Somers

Student Services Coordinator,
Rady School of Management

“She comes to work each day focused and prepared to take on the day’s challenges and even in the most stressful situations she displays a calm and supportive demeanor.”

~Linda Bartolome, AP Manager