Congratulations to all of our Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performers
Kourtney Murray
Database Management Specialist
UC San Diego Library

“Over the past year, Kourtney led a project to re-classify and re-organize all of the serials in the Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO) Library in preparation for its move and integration into the Geisel Library collection. Her leadership of this complicated effort was stellar.”

• Linda Barnhart
Department Head, Metadata Services
UC San Diego Library

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Tiffany Swiderski
Business Analyst
UC San Diego Library

“Tiffany's efforts have streamlined the work of the unit, presented management with critical information needed to make decisions and allowed us to reduce our effort and staffing while continuing to provide high level services.”

• Karen Gerstoft
Department Head, Business and Finance
UC San Diego Library

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Wilson Cheung
Programmer Analyst
Department of Mathematics

“Wilson is the best IT person I have ever seen in my 35-plus years as a University professor by a long shot. He is a remarkable person. He has an outstanding memory, is incredibly meticulous and he is an excellent problem solver.”

• J. William Helton
Professor
Department of Mathematics

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Julia Guevara
Financial Officer
Division of Physical Sciences

“Though not one to be comfortable in the limelight, Julia splendors us with values of decency and fair-mindedness so pervasively that her strength does not go unnoticed. In her own right, Julia is our quiet leader.”

• Barbara Seipel
  Assistant Dean
  Division of Physical Sciences

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Holly Proudfoot

Undergraduate Affairs Coordinator
Department of Mathematics

“Holly developed a number of forward-thinking procedures for the student affairs staff to follow. These procedures provide consistent and meaningful advising to transfer students, and many of them have been copied by other departments.”

Scott Rollans
Student Affairs Manager
Department of Mathematics

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Kevin Smith
Computing Facility Manager
Department of Physics

“Kevin is a true partner in the IT enterprise in Physics, not just an employee. What I greatly appreciate about him is that he 'cares' even when it is not 'his job' and even when the demands are urgent and way beyond the call of duty.”

• Dimitri Basov
Professor and Chair
Department of Physics
Erica Twining
Student Affairs Director
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

“Erica's efforts have instilled a new sense of respect for the Student Affairs Office and, under Erica's leadership, the faculty exhibit a much higher and new level of trust in the Student Affairs Office.”

- Seth Cohen
Professor and Chair
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Veronica Henson-Phillips
Student Affairs and Diversity Coordinator
Office of Graduate Studies

“In just five minutes of conversation with Veronica, it is clear she is passionate about education, passionate about increasing the minority population at UCSD and undaunted by obstacles. She has made my department better, stronger and more diverse.”

• Hilari Ford
Graduate Coordinator
Department of Physics

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Mary Baran
Senior Compensation Analyst
Office of the EVC-Academic Personnel Services

“Mary serves as a role model encouraging kindness, calmness, and fitness to ensure a pleasant and healthy workplace. Though she never seeks accolades, Mary deserves recognition for supporting the University's mission through her extraordinary service and dedication.”

• Kelly Maheu
Director, Compensation and Data Reporting
Office of the EVC-Academic Personnel Services

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Stephen Hamilton
Manager, Application Development and Data Management
Office of the EVC-Resource Administration

“I cannot count the number of times users across campus have provided me unsolicited positive feedback on Steve's customer service and attitude. He is increasingly recognized at the campus level as someone who can successfully transform manual or paper processes to electronic or automated ones.”

• Bobb Barile
Director, Organizational Development
Office of the EVC-Resource Administration

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Renee Lee
Student Affairs Manager
Summer Session, Office of the EVC-Resource Administration

“Renee sets the bar high by providing top-level customer service with the utmost respect and strongly believes in leading change by example. Since she began working for the Summer Session office, customer relations have increased and improved.”

Becky Arce
Director
Summer Session, Office of the EVC-Resource Administration

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
“Susanne is the glue that binds the department together and who triages the intersecting actions between faculty, staff, students and visitors. When in doubt, the department starts with Susanne.”

• Debra Ambrose
  Management Services Officer
  Departments of Philosophy and History
Katherine Edwards
Student Affairs Manager and Graduate Coordinator
Department of Visual Arts

“Kate initiated the department in adopting IMS and created new processes still used today in equipment checkout, the hiring and training of gallery sitters, and computerizing many of the student affairs duties.”

• Jordan Crandall
  Professor and Chair
  Department of Visual Arts

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Tad Linesty

Facilities Manager
Department of Visual Arts

“'I have admired Tad's ability to juggle many pressing demands and maintain his composure when most would have been pulling their hair out. He excels at not just being a member of the team, but in leading the group.'”

• Jacqueline Griffin
  Management Services Officer
  Department of Visual Arts

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Leah Tamayo-Brion
Academic Personnel Coordinator
Department of History

“Leah's response times are universally earlier than expected, the quality of her work is impeccably thorough, and her answers to queries are always well-considered. I feel honored to work with a colleague of such quality standards.”

• Gail Parish
Fiscal Manager
Department of History
Eneraldo Barcena
Multimedia Specialist
Rady School of Management

“During school breaks Ener often flies home to the Philippines where he sponsors children at an orphanage. Over Spring Break 2013, Ener will be there helping to build a belfry for the church. Always ready to help, always willing to lend a hand, Ener is an incredible employee.”

• Dean Olsen
Director, Computing and Information Systems
Rady School of Management

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Stephanie Boomhower
Career Development Advisor
Rady School of Management

“Stephanie was able to creatively and effectively find means of providing deeper support in the students’ career process than ever before. The business community and our alumni feel a new sense of ownership in the career success of the MBAs at UC San Diego!”

• Robin Darmon
Director, MBA Career Connections
Rady School of Management

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Frances Díaz
Curriculum and Faculty Support Supervisor
Rady School of Management

“I rely on Frances' expertise and trust her judgment. She ensures that our research productivity and ability to delivery high quality teaching is never too strained.”

• Hyoduk Shin
Assistant Professor-Innovation, Technology & Operations
Rady School of Management

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Alexandra Fresh
Curriculum and Faculty Support Representative
Rady School of Management

“We believe Alexandra single-handedly does the work of two or more staff members! Her work ethic, level of energy, commitment and dedication truly deserves this recognition.”

• Delbert Foit, Jr.
Lecturer
Rady School of Management

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Michael Liseski
Help Desk Technician
Rady School of Management

“Michael has built interdepartmental relations while almost single-handedly orchestrating phone and data line setup to the entire building. His work ethic stands out as an example to our student workers for their future endeavors.”

• Tugay Inal
Help Desk Supervisor
Rady School of Management

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Christine McMahan
Dean's Executive Assistant
Rady School of Management

“Christine volunteers extensively with veterans, patients, and in raising scholarship dollars and financial aid for underserved children. She is a person who believes in possibilities and takes the action needed to achieve goals.”

• Maria Lofftus
Assistant Dean, Academic Affairs and Special Initiatives
Rady School of Management

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Michelle Nguyen

MBA Admissions Coordinator
Rady School of Management

“Regardless of her workload, Michelle always has a positive attitude in working with colleagues, campus units and the public. She is a trusted colleague and friend to other staff members.”

• Margie Frazee
Director, MBA Recruitment and Admissions
Rady School of Management

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Laurie Spears
Event Planner, Development & Alumni Relations
Rady School of Management

“Laurie has implemented several innovative systems to ensure not only that events at the Rady School of Management run smoothly, but everyone involved is kept up to date with the progress of the event.”

• Christine McMahan
Dean's Executive Assistant
Rady School of Management

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Christina Wood Martinez
Undergraduate Academic Advisor
Rady School of Management

“Christina is patient, reassuring and treats each student with the utmost respect. The personal attention she shows them works toward Rady's goal to make undergrads feel like part of the Rady family.”

Gila Zanelli
Undergraduate Program Manager
Rady School of Management
Gila Zanelli
Undergraduate Program Manager
Rady School of Management

“Gila researched and identified how each college's breadth requirements could be met by one or more of Rady's proposed undergraduate courses. She provided her analysis to the colleges, and it was accepted.”

- Clark Jordan
Assistant Dean
Rady School of Management
Lovella Cacho

Project and Events Manager
The Qualcomm Institute

“I like to joke that if human cloning ever becomes one of UCSD’s standard research platforms, the university would be wise to clone the ideal workforce from a single employee: Lovella Cacho. My life has been made all the richer by having had the opportunity to work with her.”

• Tiffany Fox
Public Information Representative
The Qualcomm Institute

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Anjali Gupta
Program Manager
The Qualcomm Institute

“Ms. Gupta has served as a mentor to a number of UCSD undergraduate students who work on the SMART project as part of their field placement/internship experience. These experiences have helped them become better prepared and more apt for success in the next stage of their career.”

Kevin Patrick
Professor
Department of Family and Preventative Medicine

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Sharon Kelley
Director, Human Resources
San Diego Supercomputer Center

“Sharon manages to give hope and comfort even in the most trying times. In one case, she worked diligently for months with the UCSD and UCOP HR representatives to ensure that the family of a faculty member who unexpectedly passed away received the resources they needed to carry on through their loss.”

• Alma Palazzolo
Management Services Officer
San Diego Supercomputer Center

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Christian Kothe
Staff Research Associate
Institute For Neural Computation

“Christian created a toolbox for developing and testing brain-computer interface (BCI) models. His BCILAB is now the most extensive such toolbox available and is being used by laboratories around the world, as well as in our Center and other UCSD laboratories to develop innovative BCI applications.”

• Scott Makeig
  Research Scientist and Director
  Institute for Neural Computation

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Saura Naderi
Outreach Coordinator
The Qualcomm Institute

“Saura's desire to bring Science Technology Engineering Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) educational opportunities to marginalized youth led her to develop electronics and robotics hands-on projects that are fun, inventive, and engaging.”

Lovella Cacho
Project and Events Manager
The Qualcomm Institute
Rafael Acevedo
Student Affairs Director
Department of Economics

“Rafael is a true leader in terms of his innovation, his commitment to diversity and his dedication to ensuring the best experience for our students. He is widely recognized by his peers, colleagues and university administrators as a leader in student affairs at UCSD.”

• Valerie Ramey
Professor and Chair
Department of Economics

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Gris Arellano
Management Services Officer
Department of Linguistics/HDP

“Gris handles crises in a way you'd typically only expect from closest family members. We are a warmer and more harmonious department for it. In one case this meant rushing a faculty member to the emergency room, sitting with her for hours before emergency surgery, and consulting with doctors as the family contact.”

• Andrew Kehler
Professor and Chair
Department of Linguistics

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Ezra Van Everbroeck
Director, Social Sciences Computing Facility
Division of Social Sciences

“Ezra goes beyond the call of duty by investigating, suggesting, and implementing cost-saving measures, from extending the life of one machine to his latest venture: redesigning an IT system for the Division of Social Sciences. He is incredibly creative, humble, intelligent and driven.”

• Gris Arellano
Management Services Officer
Department of Linguistics/HDP

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Denver Washington
Financial Manager
Educational Studies

“Denver offers insights in a way that shows he cares about each project. It is not just the numbers, dollars or cents but rather personal interactions that show Denver to be someone of great personal character and compassion.”

• Christopher Halter
  Lecturer
  Educational Studies

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Irene Jacobo  
Fiscal Manager  
Department of Bioengineering

“Irene integrated the operations of the Student Affairs Team with the Fiscal Team, which has led to a more seamless operation, benefiting both the administration and the students.”

• Shankar Subramaniam  
Professor and Chair  
Department of Bioengineering

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Carolyn Sheehan
Management Services Office
Department of NanoEngineering

“Carolyn is like the frame of a house – not easily noticed like a new paint job or appreciated like the air conditioning, but essential to holding the house up. She brings positive change to all her relationships with staff, faculty and students.”

• Ji Song
Fiscal and Human Resources Manager
Department of NanoEngineering
Risa Shibata

Interfaces Graduate Training Program Coordinator
Department of Bioengineering

“Risa goes out of her way to make sure that students are aware of the resources available to succeed in their education and to assure that they do become exemplary cross-disciplinary scientists as they move on to their scholarly endeavors.”

• Andrew McCulloch
Professor
Department of Bioengineering

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Roxann Bedia
Program Representative
Extension

“Roxann’s contributions as an innovator in the delivery of professional development for educators cannot be overstated. She is a driving force in the continuous fiscal growth of the Education Department.”

• Morgan Appel
  Director, Educational Programs
  Extension

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Emily Loui
Manager, Service and Civic Leadership Extension

“In addition to her regular duties, Emily created two scholarships in the last three years, volunteered as an English tutor with the International Center, taught CPR and First Aid to almost 200 undergraduates, started micro-credit programs for women in Mexico, built schools for rural Mayans and much more.”

• Taylor Christensen
Program Representative
Extension

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer
Molly McDonald
Administrative Assistant
Extension

“Molly has embraced both the need and the logic of centralizing the different processes for Extension. She has defined herself as 'grace under pressure' and sets a great example for internal customer service that keeps our internal communication open, helpful and moving forward.”

• Rachelle Wilson
  Program Representative Supervisor
  Extension

Academic Affairs 2012-2013 Star Performer