Congratulations to all of our Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performers
Doug Dutson
Academic Affairs Specialist
Theatre

I could not make a higher recommendation for any other employee...Doug has revitalized our department in countless ways. He has taken on a leadership role that no previous academic manager in our department has in a generation.

• Marianne McDonald, Professor, Theatre
• Patricia Rincon, Senior LSOE, Theatre

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Yuka Nakanishi
Fiscal/HR Manager
Visual Arts

Yuka is a turbo engine in everything she does, and her positive energy is infectious. She loves increasing her knowledge and is one of the most generous, industrious, conscientious, dedicated employees I’ve worked with at the University. She is an exemplary employee.

• Jackie Griffin
Management Services Officer
Visual Arts

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Diana Platero-Lopez
Student Affairs Manager
Music

Diana is well-respected by her peers and, in her own quiet way, brings the staff together. She was Chair of the Chicano/Latino Staff Association, oversaw the Cesar Chavez Celebration and the annual Diversity Luncheon, and co-chaired the annual UCSD Women's Conference.

- Barbara Jackson
  Management Services Officer
  Music

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Dirk Sutro
Program Promotions Manager
Arts & Humanities Dean’s Office

Dirk brings under-privileged, under-represented high school students and their parents to our art departments’ presentations and performances free of charge. We have received nothing but gratitude and delight from the schools, the students, and their parents.

• Marjorie Hardy
  Assistant Dean
  Division of Arts & Humanities

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Richard McDole
Divisional Personnel Senior Analyst
Physical Sciences Dean’s Office

He has an uncanny ability to successfully navigate communications and processes using reason and intellect along with a very succinct and articulate presentation. He exemplifies the value of commitment, innovation, and service – hallmarks that contribute to the greatness of our University.

• Barbara Seipel
Assistant Dean, Division of Physical Sciences

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Yongxuan Su  
Director, Mass Spectrometry Facility  
Chemistry and Biochemistry

In addition to being an expert in mass spectrometry and the resident service engineer, he also volunteers his time to educate young scientists. His effort and attention to detail make the facility comparable to the best in industry and academics.

• Brian Leigh  
  Postdoctoral Fellow  
  Chemistry and Biochemistry

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Cindy Tran  
Staff Research Associate  
Chemistry and Biochemistry  

Over the last several years, we’ve had students with various disabilities such as limited dexterity or visual impairment. They need extra support provided with respect. Cindy always finds that right balance. The lab operates smoothly and safely thanks to Cindy’s talents and professionalism.

• Haim Weizman  
LSOE  
Chemistry and Biochemistry  

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Erica Twining
Director, Student Affairs & Industrial Relations
Chemistry and Biochemistry

Erica makes it a priority to improve the educational experience of the students. Some examples of her extraordinary efforts include launching industry internship opportunities for majors and organizing the western regional NOBCChE conference held on campus.

Judy Kim
Associate Professor
Chemistry and Biochemistry

• Judy Kim
Associate Professor
Chemistry and Biochemistry

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Without Beverly’s coordination efforts and strong relationship to OSD, many students would fall through the cracks, and many faculty would encounter barriers or challenges to accommodating students’ often complex examination needs.

• Manny dela Paz
  Student Affairs Manager
  Sociology/Anthropology
LaTonya Hammork
Human Resources/AP Coordinator
Education Studies/Linguistics/HDP

If you look around the campus, there are many shared service experiments. Many fail for a variety of reasons. LaTonya beat the odds and serves as the example of the kind of employee one should hire when entering into these waters. You cannot teach these qualities; they are who she is.

• Marlene Lacson
  Academic Personnel Manager
  Social Sciences Dean’s Office

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Silas Horton
IT Support Analyst
Social Sciences Dean’s Office

Without fail faculty, staff, and grads rave about how quickly Silas responds to the issues they report and how efficiently he solves them. He brings a can-do attitude to the job that is a source of inspiration for all of us.

• Ezra Van Everbroeck
SSCF South Director
Social Sciences Dean’s Office

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Thanh Maxwell
Undergraduate Coordinator
Cognitive Science

From a graduating senior: “I have e-mailed my college to change my answer for the graduation petition question ‘Who was your favorite professor?’ to Thanh. I honestly believe she has contributed more positively to my undergraduate experience than any other faculty member or professor.”

• Teresa Wassum
Management Services Officer, Cognitive Science

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Ashley Morris
Academic Personnel Specialist
Psychology

Ashley has actualized many of the ideal attributes of an AP Specialist – her innate curiosity, work ethic, positive attitude, organizational talents, empathy, and fresh eye and follow-through have made her a highly valued member of our team.

• Peter Hinkley
Management Services Officer
Psychology

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Ariane Parkes
Undergraduate Student Affairs Advisor
Political Science

Ariane has been instrumental in building the undergraduate program...she designed the annual newsletter, launched the research apprenticeship and local internship programs, organized a ‘Graduate School Panel for Political Science Majors,’ and created a ‘Lunch with the Chair’ event.

• Regina Ready
Student Affairs Manager, Political Science

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
During difficult times like these, Giselle rises to the challenge of working with reduced resources while providing stellar service. She works extremely hard to make it easier for students to move through their academic career with EDS, from application to matriculation.

• Pamela Fruge
Management Services Officer, Education Studies

Giselle Van Luit
Student Affairs Manager
Education Studies
Janet Lenington
Graduate Affairs Coordinator
Bioengineering

Janet initiated a highly-effective change in all graduate interviews: ensuring that they be handled by faculty committees of both gender representations. This resulted in a high level of enthusiasm and acceptance across the spectrum of our potential incoming graduates.

• Marcos Intaglietta
  Professor
  Bioengineering

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Cyril Nierva
Student Affairs Coordinator
NanoEngineering

No matter how busy she may be or how rough of a day she has had to endure, Cyril always has a smile for her colleagues. She is like walking sunshine – even on the most dreary of days, Cyril’s brightness shines through and is noticeable by others.

Ji Song
Fiscal/HR Manager
NanoEngineering

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Renee Lee
Student Affairs Manager
Summer Session

She quickly connected with other colleagues to build a network of on-campus and off-campus contacts to improve her ability to work collaboratively to further the University’s strategic initiatives and mission. Renee values relationships and effectively uses her expertise to help others.

• Becky Arce
  Director
  Summer Session
Joanna Mickle
Human Resource Analyst
EVC Business Office

Joanna consistently provides an outstanding level of service to all employees in the organization. Despite a persistently heavy workload in a demanding environment, Joanna always maintains a calm, professional demeanor, a positive attitude and a strong service-oriented work ethic.

Beverly Randez
Business Office Manager - Office of the EVC

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Linh Vu
Director, Information Systems
Office of Graduate Studies

Widely-admired, a trusted campus resource for information, a person who can turn dreams into reality for the greater good of many, a results-oriented individual, and a mentor to numerous UC employees. Linh Vu exemplifies the qualities of a stellar UC employee.

- Steve Gardepie
Management Services Officer,
Office of Graduate Studies

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Frances Díaz
Curriculum and Faculty Support Supervisor
Rady School of Management

An invisible hand is to the market economy as Frances is to me. Her strong work ethic and positive attitude are evident in her daily interactions. Even in the most stressful situations, she displays a calm and supportive demeanor.

• Hyoduk Shin
Assistant Professor, Rady School of Management

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Christine McMahan
Executive Assistant to the Dean
Rady School of Management Dean’s Office

Providing executive level assistance to the Dean of any UC San Diego school or division is a large task. Christine handles this task with the precision of a brain surgeon, the tactical skills of a military general, and the diplomacy of a seasoned ambassador.

• Maria Loffttus
Assistant Dean
Rady School of Management

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Frank Cano
Senior Intellectual Property Analyst
Technology Transfer Office

Frank comes to work with the right attitude, emanates positive vibes and energy, and leaves a positive impression on his coworkers and customers. He forms excellent relationships with everyone, understands other people, and respects everyone's viewpoints and opinions.

• Shihong Nicolaou
Intellectual Property Manager
Technology Transfer Office

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Vanessa Pool
Project Manager
The Qualcomm Institute

For Vanessa, volunteering and giving back to the community is as normal as brushing one’s teeth. Because of her efforts with the San Diego Food Bank, countless staff, students, faculty, and community members have been exposed to the important issue of hunger in our local community.
We just found out that out of 652 registered teams for the Big Data Challenge competition organized by Telecom Italia, ours is one of the 10 finalists; this would not have happened without Megha. She was invaluable in getting the whole project put together.

• David Meyer
  Professor
  Mathematics
Janet Shin
Management Services Officer
Center for Human Development

The response to Janet’s extraordinary level of sensitivity to the complexity of interdisciplinary projects, to her administrative flexibility and creativity, and to her recognition of the importance of allocating credit for research activities appropriately has been universal respect.

• Terry Jernigan
  Professor and Chair
  Cognitive Science

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Shirley Higgins
Assistant Head, Metadata Services
UC San Diego Library

Shirley’s many strengths provide exactly what staff need: superior listening skills, superb analytical skills, attention to detail, genuine interest in people, and a commitment to finding efficient and effective ways to handle our program’s business.

• Linda Barnhart
  Director, Metadata Services
  UC San Diego Library

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer
Gabriela Montoya
Digital Program Analyst
UC San Diego Library

Gabriela has provided a model for how to approach a complex project involving multiple contributors. Her leadership, tact, insight, and communication skills were absolutely critical. Her ability to listen, analyze and create workable compromises was central to moving forward.

• Roger Smith
Director, Digital Library Development
UC San Diego Library
Michael Stuart
Unit Head, Desktop Services
UC San Diego Library

Michael’s contributions formalized the creation of a high performance team: from a decentralized background into a new centralized desktop services unit. He performs at an outstanding level amidst constant demands to complete the transition, both internally within IT, and Library-wide.

• Tammy Dearie
  Associate University Librarian
  UC San Diego Library

Academic Affairs 2013-2014 Star Performer