Nominee's Name:  Lab Assistant

Nominee's Job Title and Brief Job Description (330 character limit):

CJ was hired to help a junior faculty in my lab who was transitioning to a faculty position with a research project. This included maintaining a mouse colony, analyzing histology data and performing some cell culture experiments.

In the space provided below, please provide examples of the nominee's reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism and uniqueness of contribution. (1200 character limit for each category)

Reliability:

CJ will be there when you need him. He is extremely organized and very reliable. You can count on him and we really do. There is really nothing else to say.
Quality of Work:

The quality of his work is extraordinary. He performs a wide variety of assays in the lab, both for his own project, but also for maintaining a large colony of genetically modified mice that are the basis of two other projects. Postdoctoral fellows have asked CJ for advice with their experiments. CJ has compiled the data for his own first-author publication. The results are simply beautiful.

Initiative:

My expectations for CJ were to maintain our mouse colony and "help out a little". He has by FAR exceeded the expectations. There are very few students who would even think about conducting their own project and frankly, most would not follow through. CJ simply ran with the opportunity he was given. He was initially supervised by a junior faculty in my laboratory who left the institution in June 2014. CJ has simply continued working on his project as if nothing changed.
Professionalism:

CJ will be there when you need him. He is extremely organized and very reliable. CJ plans most of his experiments with ridiculously little help, often less than a postdoctoral fellow would require. He really takes his work very seriously. He will stay late or You can count on him and we really do.

Uniqueness of Contribution:

CJ was hired as Lab Assistant to perform genotyping and a few experiments. Not only did he do extremely well, he also started a new project with a junior faculty member in my laboratory. When the junior faculty left the institution, CJ continued the research project on his own.

CJ is the only student in my lab who has ever conducted an independent research project. The project involves the characterization of a new transgenic mouse model, analyzing lung sections for the development of pulmonary fibrosis and experiments in cultured cells to explain why the novel transgenic mice are protected from pulmonary fibrosis. This work requires a combination of skills and techniques that would ordinarily be performed by a postdoctoral scholar. CJ presents his findings in lab meetings and at the CCOM Research Day. CJ performs at the level of an advanced scholar and far above the expectations for an undergraduate researcher. We are in the process of submitting manuscript to journal that specializes in basic research on pulmonary medicine.

In addition, has made important contributions to two other publications.
You may provide additional information on this nominee on a separate sheet. (2 page limit)

Name/Title of Nominator: Isabella Grumbach, MD, PhD Associate Professor

Department: Internal Medicine

Date: 02/12/15
February 12, 2015

Dear Committee:

I am truly delighted to nominate Christopher J. Winters (or CJ as he is known to us-) as "Student Employee of the Year". I joined the faculty at the University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine in 2006 where I am currently an Associate Professor and the Vice-Chair for Research in the Dept. of Medicine. I run a VA-, NIH- and American Heart Association-funded laboratory with 4 postdocs/research scientists, a graduate student and a research assistant that focuses on the function of a calcium-dependent kinase, CaMKII, in vascular and pulmonary pathology.

I have known CJ since he interviewed for a position as lab assistant my lab in May 2013. I vividly remember that he was by far the best candidate in this batch of applicants. He was specifically hired to help advance a very active project on airway hyperreactivity, mitochondrial function and CaMKII with a junior faculty in Pulmonary Medicine that spearheaded the project.

Over the last year, CJ has not only significantly contributed to this project (he is a co-author on a recently published study in Am J Respir Cell Mol Bio), he has also conducted an independent research project. CJ established a new transgenic mouse model and generated in vivo and in vitro data that inhibiting CaMKII protects from pulmonary fibrosis in the bleomycin-inhalation model. He already presented his own poster at our "Carver College of Medicine Research Day" in May. We are about to submit for publication in a peer-reviewed journal. CJ will be the first author. This will be the first time that an undergraduate in my lab will be the first author of a complex study.

Over the years, I have employed numerous lab assistants. Compared to other undergraduate students, CJ performs on an entirely different level. In fact, he works at the level of a seasoned graduate student. CJ manages the mouse colony for two projects, performs and analyzes experiments, prepares presentations and posters with superior motivation and skills.

CJ is a great critical thinker who easily identifies experimental problems and proposes solutions. He independently analyzes data and draws accurate conclusions. He presents data in a logical manner with the appropriate statistics and graphs. For his project, he discusses his ideas and plans for further experiments directly with me. I treat like any other scientist in my lab although he is "only" an undergraduate lab assistant.

Needless to say that CJ consistently fulfills his obligations in the lab in a timely and far above satisfactory manner. He always takes responsibility for his personal actions and
performance. He is very well organized and meticulous in his lab notes. Lastly, CJ is an excellent team worker. CJ has been training other Lab Assistants and has done an exemplary job in mentoring them. We count on CJ and he has proven that we really can.

On a personal note, CJ is very humble, cordial, well-liked and helpful to other lab members. He is a great example of a true Hawkeye: straightforward, hard-working and incredibly talented. He is truly deserving to recognized as "Student Employee of the Year".

Please fell free to contact me with any questions at (319) 384-4610.

Isabella Grumbach, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Medicine
Division of Cardiovascular Medicine

Vice-Chair for Research
University of Iowa
Carver College of Medicine
Nominee's Name: Tim Tvedte

Nominee's Job Title and Brief Job Description (330 character limit):

CAMBUS Training & Safety Supervisor
Responsible for managing and supervising the Transit Coach Operator training program. Leads staff of nine training assistants. Investigates & responds to accidents, complaints & employee safety infractions. Develops programs to enhance the quality and safety of transit system services.

In the space provided below, please provide examples of the nominee's reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism and uniqueness of contribution. (1200 character limit for each category)

Reliability:

Throughout his entire employment with CAMBUS, Tim has continuously performed at an exceptional level and met the extraordinary needs of the CAMBUS system. He was initially hired as a transit coach operator, as are all new employees. Through his excellent work record and abilities, he advanced within the organization and was ultimately promoted to the highly responsible position of Training & Safety Supervisor. This position is responsible for the training of approximately 80 new transit coach operators (bus drivers) per year as well as the monitoring & evaluation of 135 bus drivers. In addition to his duties, he has familiarized himself in all areas of the organization. Tim has made himself available at all times of the CAMBUS operating day and has been willing to perform any task needed, ranging from driving to dispatching. He has shown an incredible ability to balance his academic and work schedules, as well as those for whom he is training. Tim's work record is a shining example at CAMBUS. In over two years he has never had an accident, complaint or work rule violation and has received the highest rating on all four of his six-month performance evaluations.
Quality of Work:

Tim's quality of work is second to none. He is very familiar with and readily accepts the responsibilities and duties of his position. His work is always completed accurately and on time. He dedicates himself relentlessly to the responsibility vested in him by CAMBUS to maintain the highest level of safety. He not only performs his duties to the highest standards, but continually seeks new ways to improve the safety and quality of the services CAMBUS provides. This pursuit is facilitated by his evaluation of current processes as well as actively researching outside resources.

Initiative:

CAMBUS recently experienced a dramatic shortage of drivers that jeopardized the ability to maintain its normal level of service for the fall 2014 semester. Since assuming his current position in March of 2014, Tim has led 106 new student employees through the Transit Coach Operator training program. Throughout this tremendous effort, he has continued to evaluate the training process and has made several improvements to the training manual and program in an effort to increase safety measures and efficiency. Without his "above and beyond" efforts, CAMBUS would not have been able to reinstate full service levels in the fall of 2014.

Tim has shown determination to ensure CAMBUS continues to operate with the highest regard for safety. He has a keen ability to recognize unsafe behaviors and addresses them before they lead to accidents. He recently led a week-long effort on pedestrian safety and continues to keep essential safety measures in the forefront of every CAMBUS employees' mind.

In addition to the training effort, Tim has been an invaluable member of the CAMBUS leadership team. He has contributed valuable insight and personally assisted in all areas of the operations.
Professionalism:

Through his actions, Tim is recognized as a leader at CAMBUS. The manner in which he provides service to customers, trains employees, interacts with employees and communicates with the public is an example for all. He is highly competent and responsive to the goals of the organization and the needs of the employees. He understands the expectations of CAMBUS customers and strives to always meet them. He truly believes in the three S’s of CAMBUS (Safety, Service, and Schedule) and demonstrates their importance every day. On a typical day at CAMBUS, you will find Tim with a smile on his face and ready to serve the public and fellow employees alike.

Uniqueness of Contribution:

Tim has been instrumental to the continued success of CAMBUS as a student operated transit system. CAMBUS is The University of Iowa’s transit system conceived, supervised and operated by students. Serving students, faculty, staff and the general public, CAMBUS has developed into a vital service providing more than 4.5 million rides per year. Tim is a vivid example of the superior abilities and dedication of The University of Iowa’s student employees.

Tim began working for CAMBUS as a Transit Coach Operator in August of 2012 and was promoted to Training Assistant in October of 2013. Tim was promoted again to his current position of Training and Safety Supervisor in March of 2014. He is one of five student supervisors overseeing the entire operation. In his relatively short tenure, he has been an invaluable member of the management team and emerged as a leader. His insight and professionalism exceed what one would assume for a young person of his experience. He continues to willingly contribute in all areas of the CAMBUS operations which allowed CAMBUS to persevere through a very difficult period. Tim has performed as if he were a seasoned full-time professional.
You may provide additional information on this nominee on a separate sheet. (2 page limit)

Name/Title of Nominator: Brian McClatchey, CAMBUS Manager

Department: Parking & Transportation

Date: 2/16/15
Nominee's Name:  

Paige Wilson  

Nominee's Job Title and Brief Job Description (330 character limit):  

Scenic Artist - Responsible for planning, preparing, and executing the painting of theatrical scenic elements for dance, opera, and theatre productions within the Division of Performing Arts. This requires working as a member of a team of artists or individually to uphold professional industry standards of quality and safety.  

In the space provided below, please provide examples of the nominee's reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism and uniqueness of contribution. (1200 character limit for each category)  

Reliability:  

For the nearly three years that Paige has worked for the Division of Performing Arts' paint shops, she has been widely recognized by faculty, staff, graduate TAs, and fellow students as an incredibly mature, responsible, and phenomenally talented student employee. She has been reliable in not only the sense that she rarely misses work (and never without reasonable notice), but also in her consistent ability to make smart decisions, work well within a group of artists, and relish opportunities to showcase her stunning skills. There have been many pieces of scenery that would have ultimately been cut from shows if I had not been able to rely on her to take responsibility for the entire project and produce a beautiful painted object with little or no guidance.
Quality of Work:

Paige's skills as an artist are unparalleled by any other professional scenic artist I've worked with. Her draftsmanship and ability to match color are superb, and she has an incredibly facility with the brushes, sprayers, and handmade inventions that are the tools of our trade. When presented with a series of color swatches from scenic designers ranging from faculty members to internationally renowned guest artists, Paige can detect and replicate incredibly subtle nuances in color that many industry professionals would be hard-pressed to fully develop. Even more importantly, however, is her ability to work as part of a team in a fairly charged environment. Paige is incredibly gifted at intuitively knowing when and where to address any issues that may come up with either the equipment, materials, or co-workers on any given day according to the exact details of the specific project.

Initiative:

Paige is often given an aspect of a paint procedure on a show and asked to find a solution. Every time, she takes the initiative to exceed the original set of expectations and comes up with a system that is a smart, elegant, and efficient answer to problems that we weren't even originally aware of. For instance, on a large backdrop with no room or time for error, Paige was asked to start the process of gridding out the original drawing to scale it up for lay out on the full-sized drop. She created not only the standard grid, but also a system of clear acetate overlays with a color coding method to map out what would appear to be an incredibly detailed mass of energetic painted brush strokes, which would have become an incoherent and unattractive mess on the actual drop if they had not been so well planned. On many occasions I have come into the shop to discover she has created a better system for storing materials or more efficient way to approach a project, improvements that are essential to the eventual success of the paint treatment on that particular show.
Professionalism:

Paige brings a higher level of professionalism to her work with us than can be expected of most permanent employees. Despite being the most talented member of the team on many projects, she is always quite humble and a joy to work with. She spent her first year in the shop as an assistant, which meant considerable bucket washing and plenty of boring and seemingly endless projects, but she never once complained and always did a beautiful job. Despite an emotionally charged artistic environment, frequently further complicated by extraordinary time shortages, Paige has always brought a calm and level-headed energy to the table. In a piece of scenery last year that was covered in small and precisely located stencilled brick, the full time artist working on the project was convinced that it was unable to be finished. Paige, however, maintained a professional attitude in the midst of despair that enabled the project to be completed, the end result of which thrilled the new faculty director, instead of adding any extra complications.

Uniqueness of Contribution:

In a collaborative theatre and mask project this fall, we discovered on a Friday morning that the priorities of the show had changed and that the performers would need to begin rehearsing in the space on Monday. Because I needed to attend production meetings all morning to keep other projects on track, I asked Paige to take a two week process that was in the very early stages of planning, and condense it into two hours. When I walked in after the meetings, she had successfully directed a staff member, two graduate research assistants, and a fellow student employee to accomplish a beautifully painted floor that pleased designers, directors, and performers alike. The stakes were high, as it was the first production of the year and a large project with support from multiple grants, with Italian mask artists as collaborators with very high artistic standards. I have never worked with anyone else that I would have trusted to make this happen, and Paige managed it effortlessly. Her contributions to the overall success of at least 25 different productions are unique in their combination of truly gifted artistic skill and impeccable judgement that often made the impossible possible.
You may provide additional information on this nominee on a separate sheet. (2 page limit)

Name/Title of Nominator: Leslie Delavan - Scenic Charge Artist

Department: Division of Performing Arts/Performing Arts Production Unit

Date: February 16, 2015
Nominee's Name:  Kaleb Bozorgzadeh

Nominee's Job Title and Brief Job Description (330 character limit):

Student HPC Systems Administrator - Kaleb works with the ITS - Research Services team to develop, maintain, and support two 4000 processor core high performance computing systems. These systems are used by over 500 campus researchers from 70 different departments.

In the space provided below, please provide examples of the nominee’s reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism and uniqueness of contribution. (1200 character limit for each category)

Reliability:

Kaleb is an exceptionally reliable student. He not only exceeds expectations for attendance and balancing work and school obligations but he also is very good and prioritizing projects as requested.

One example of an ongoing work process that Kaleb has primary ownership of is the vetting and creation of new high performance computing user accounts. The defined process has expectations about when users will be created and Kaleb does a very good job of meeting these expectations. Kaleb also shown leadership in this process by suggesting and implementing improvements to the process.
Quality of Work:

The quality of Kaleb's work is exceptional. He is now at a point where the team is comfortable assigning significant projects to Kaleb as the lead.

A good example of this a rework of the HPC reporting system. The original reporting scripts were written a few years ago and over time bugs were found in the scripts. Minor modifications were made along the way but a new system was needed. Kaleb was tasked with reviewing and rewriting these scripts to improve reporting and remove anomalous results.

Kaleb finished this project on time and the result is a higher quality and more maintainable set of tools than what was previously available.

Initiative:

Kaleb is a strong contributor to the HPC team. He is comfortable raising concerns about processes and technical issues to anyone in the group. He is also very good at jumping in to fix issues when he feels that he has the information needed to do so. Kaleb also operates well with high level direction taking the initiative to research various options and make recommendations or decisions about direction to go based on circumstances as appropriate.

A great example of the initiative Kaleb has shown is with his work on the deployment of Xeon Phi accelerator cards in the HPC environment. This cutting edge technology allows specific types of research to see computational acceleration as high as ten times over that of a normal computer. However, to achieve those gains a complex software stack must be deployed and maintained. Kaleb took on the project of deploying this software stack in an automated way across dozens of independent servers in the HPC environment. He is now our primary expert on this software deployment and even the most senior members of the team come to him with questions in this area.
Professionalism:

Kaleb acts professionally and as a member of the team. His communication to both those in the team and outside customers is appropriate and respectful. He is also timely in his communication and as previously mentioned is very reliable about working hours and notifications of upcoming absence.

Uniqueness of Contribution:

As I have described throughout Kaleb has been a very strong contributor to the HPC team. His most unique single project contribution is his work with the Xeon Phi accelerator cards.

However, the truly unique contribution that Kaleb has made and continues to make every day is with the breadth and quality of his work. He is willing take on leadership roles on projects within the team and takes responsibility for delivering projects and processes on time. He also interacts well with customers and has helped faculty and students throughout the University with HPC related challenges. Kaleb's impact to the institution is much higher than someone typically in this role and he has had direct and significant impact on the productivity of research in areas as diverse as molecular dynamics and medical imaging.
You may provide additional information on this nominee on a separate sheet. (2 page limit)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name/Title of Nominator</th>
<th>Ben Rogers - Sr. Director</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>ITS - Research Services</td>
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<td>Date</td>
<td>February 12, 2015</td>
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</table>
Nominee’s Name:  Ian Brauer

Nominee’s Job Title and Brief Job Description (330 character limit):

Studio Assistant, Language Media Center Multimedia Development Studio. Assist users in web page development, video transfers from cameras/analog media to digital form, and use of recording and media editing software. Troubleshoot equipment and software issues. Engage in special multimedia projects as opportunities arise.

In the space provided below, please provide examples of the nominee’s reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism and uniqueness of contribution. (1200 character limit for each category)

Reliability:

Ian is absolutely reliable and accountable. He arrives on time for his hours and can be counted on to show up consistently (missing work only when he is ill or has other compelling reasons to be elsewhere, which is rarely). He always communicates with us if circumstances keep him from coming to work. He can be trusted to do what he promises to do and he invariably does it in a timely fashion. Because of his dependability, the LMC professional staff can and does, without hesitation, turn to him for support in accomplishing special projects and tasks. He keeps us apprised of his progress on tasks and informs us about special problems or needs that arise in the Studio that he is not able to address himself. In sum, he possesses a very strong work ethic.
Quality of Work:

Ian performs his work to high standards of skill, efficiency and effectiveness. From August 2012 through May, 2014, he worked as an ITC and Front Desk monitor for the Language Media Center, so we had ample evidence of his excellent technical aptitude and fine people skills. When he began work in the Multimedia Development Studio, he quickly acquired the applied technical expertise (particularly proficiency with digital video editing and post-production applications and techniques) needed to be effective in his new Studio job. He is both service and goal oriented and strives to finish tasks on or before deadline. He is able to work independently and performs all his routine duties with little or no supervision or prompting required. He clearly cares about his job and does it with a positive attitude.

Initiative:

In the spring of 2014, the LMC provided technical services to record and produce three videos featuring the Fulbright Foreign Language TAs—Pius Nambuta (Swahili TA from Tanzania), Yiseul Yu (Korean TA from South Korea), and Maged Nofal (Arabic TA from Egypt). The project was the collaborative effort of four people: Elena Osinskaya (Language Initiatives Manager), Elizabeth Deifell (graduate assistant for Language Initiatives), Gregory Johnson (LMC IT Support Consultant) and Ian Brauer. When offered the opportunity to become involved in the project, Ian jumped at the chance and took on the editing and post-production work in Final Cut Pro (a sophisticated video editing program) to produce the three videos using footage shot with three cameras. Editing the multi-camera/multi-angle transitions was a complicated and time-consuming task, which Ian handled admirably.

The LMC has a computer-loaner program for Division graduate students. The laptops require updating before they circulate (and, of course, when they come back). During the fall, Ian saw the queue of machines waiting and volunteered to take over this responsibility, which he did while he performed his other duties.
Professionalism:

Ian conducts himself in a very professional and mature manner—a quality we seek in all our undergraduate student employees. Ours is a very diverse international community and Ian is able to work cooperatively and respectfully with everyone. Ian communicates well with the LMC staff as well as the faculty and TAs who use the Studio. He provides one-to-one help in a low-key and non-judgmental manner—a particularly useful style when assisting novice developers create digital media materials.

Uniqueness of Contribution:

Ian holds a unique undergraduate student position in that he provides dedicated local help to DWLLC faculty and TAs to develop multimedia for language teaching and learning. Unlike our other students employees, Ian actively contributes to the creation of new materials and the one-on-one training needs of Studio users.
You may provide additional information on this nominee on a separate sheet. (2 page limit)

Name/Title of Nominator: Sue Otto, Director

Department: Language Media Center

Date: 02/12/2015
February 16, 2015

Student Employee of the Year Award Selection Committee
Office of Student Financial Aid
208 Calvin Hall

Dear SEOTY Award Selection Committee:

We are writing to express our enthusiastic support for Ian Brauer’s nomination as the Student Employee of the Year. We all have worked with him and appreciate his willingness to go the extra mile, his cooperative and helpful attitude, and his technical expertise. Ian deserves to be recognized for the excellence of his work for the Language Media Center (LMC).

In August 2012 Ian began working at the LMC as a student assistant in the LMC Instructional Technology Center (computer lab) and Front Desk after he was recommended by another student employee. He has been a very dependable worker and a go-to person for extra projects. He is very personable and friendly towards all of us involved here in the LMC: the staff, the other student workers, and especially our users, who include faculty, staff, and graduate and undergraduate students. He has been an asset to the LMC, to the Division of World Languages, Literatures & Cultures (DWLLC) and to the University of Iowa.

Ian moved to the LMC Multimedia Development Studio as the student assistant last fall semester and he has been a great help in the Studio. During the day, the facility gets used heavily; and, while many users have perhaps 90% of the knowledge they need to get tasks done, it is essential to have someone to answer the questions that arise. Often people need more than just technical expertise with software. They need someone who is skilled and creative to help develop innovative solutions to projects, research, and quantitative analysis. Ian has provided the essential support needed to help instructors and graduate students accomplish their work.

Those of us who worked with Ian on the Fulbright Foreign Language TA video using FinalCut Pro found him to be exceptionally talented, responsible and kind. He approached the inevitable technological glitches and bugs with a self-assured patience. The quality of Ian’s work was excellent. He was insightful and very committed to the success of the project. Ian was extremely detail oriented, responding to all requests and adhering to high standards of work. It was truly a pleasure to work with him.

In sum, Ian Brauer is a great candidate for Student Employee of the Year and we heartily endorse his nomination.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Bohde
LMC Instructional Services Specialist

Elena Osinskaya
DWLLC Language Initiatives Manager

Gregory P. Johnson
LMC IT Support Consultant

Elizabeth Deifell
DWLLC Language Initiatives Graduate Assistant
Nominee's Name: Cameron Freeman

Nominee's Job Title and Brief Job Description (330 character limit):
Student Coordinator/Trainer
Please see attached nomination sheet

In the space provided below, please provide examples of the nominee's reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism and uniqueness of contribution. (1200 character limit for each category)

Reliability:
Please see attached nomination sheet.
Quality of Work:

Please see attached nomination sheet.

Initiative:

Please see attached nomination sheet.
Professionalism:
Please see attached nomination sheet.

Uniqueness of Contribution:
Please see attached nomination sheet.
You may provide additional information on this nominee on a separate sheet. (2 page limit)

Name/Title of Nominator: Jeff Rahn
Department: VPFO Parking and Transportation
Date: 2/13/2015
Job Title and Brief Job Description:

Cameron has been employed with the Parking and Transportation department for over a year and a half and has shown excellence in both positions he has held with us. For the first six months of employment, Cameron was a booth attendant/cashier and handled large amounts of cash each shift and showed exemplary customer service skills throughout this time. Cameron then applied for the cashier coordinator and trainer position that requires a larger degree of responsibility and time commitment. The daily duties of this new position include but are not limited to: Providing secure and accountable transport of money bags, petty cash, and cashiers while adhering to a time-sensitive schedule, training and orientation of new student cashiers, coordination assistance for University events such as Hawkeye football or basketball games, assisting parking dispatchers and field services officers with general facilities operations such as ramp counts, basic machinery maintenance, and coordinating motor's assist services, and finally, providing excellent customer service and parking information to patrons via telephone and in the cashier booth. Cameron continues to excel and plays a large role in the department.

Reliability:

The student coordinator position requires a larger time commitment than the regular booth attendant/cashier position. The shifts are generally longer and require availability outside of standard business hours. Throughout his time as a cashier and as a student coordinator, Cameron has had impeccable attendance, has always been willing to pick up shifts for co-workers in normal and emergency situations, and has been willing to work beyond his normal shift time to complete all required tasks properly.

Quality of Work:

Cameron applied for and received the promotion from cashier to student coordinator due to his excellent work performance, professional judgment, and work ethic. He has a very thorough knowledge of parking permits and fees, troubleshooting solutions, and customer service skills that make him extremely beneficial both in the field and in the dispatch office. There has been no need for disciplinary action in the year and half he has been employed with us. Cameron’s thoroughness in his work brings assurance to the parking dispatcher on duty that tasks will not be forgotten or done incorrectly.

Initiative:

Outside of his willingness to take on additional responsibilities as a coordinator, Cameron has been very involved in meetings with other coordinators, parking dispatchers, and the facilities operations manager discussing possibilities for improvement in scheduling, organization, and customer service. His opinions
and proactive ideas have been highly valued in several major transitions the department has made recently and we look forward to his input for future projects. Recently in the department, we have made large operational changes concerning 23 regularly cashiered facilities and 150 student workers. Ideas discussed were rotating shift times, transport/pick up changes, and additional cashier training and orientation. Cameron played a huge role in these departmental decisions. He provided the facilities operations manager and the parking dispatchers with a realistic time-sensitive view of daily in the field operations and had many fantastic ideas that helped to create a new cashiered facilities operations schedule. Cameron also supported the idea of additional cashier training provided by himself and the other student coordinators. He assisted in brainstorming the methods to blend contacting many cashiers in a small amount of time with the necessary thoroughness required for effective training in the field. He has utilized all in house and in the field training resources to create a friendly and effective environment for the cashiers to learn. Because of his influence on this monumental project, we have seen great improvements from our cashiers in regards to recognizing parking validations and passes, machinery troubleshooting, customer service skills advancement, and overall increased confidence on the job.

Professionalism:

Besides his innovative and proactive ideas, Cameron’s level of professionalism in discussing these changes and brainstorming with varying levels of management has been second to none. In large group settings or on an individual basis, he has been polite and supportive of the ideas of others while still being open to suggestions and accepting of necessities of each goal. It has been extremely refreshing to have him involved due to his high accountability, common sense, and understanding of the situation at hand.

Uniqueness of Contribution:

At Parking and Transportation, we employ a large student body and have a wide variety of personalities and work ethics. Cameron stands out above the rest because of his desire to go above and beyond for his co-workers, supervisors, and complete strangers. First, he makes a connection with the cashiers so they are comfortable asking him for extra advice or assistance with cashiering or training when they feel sheepish asking for additional clarification. Second, he sees when a method is not the most practical and will provide reasonable suggestions for all involved to supervisors. Most students would simply accept a flaw in the system and would not put in the extra effort of trying to find a solution. Lastly, there have been several occasions when he has been working the latest coordinating shift and he has helped a stranger jump start their car with his own battery pack because he did not want to see them stranded at two in the morning. The combination of common sense and compassion goes to prove that Cameron’s level of character stands above the rest. He only has a few more semesters with us as a student and I believe he will have much success with his future in the working world.
Nominee's Name:  Cody Geest

Nominee's Job Title and Brief Job Description (330 character limit):

Cody works as an Application Developer in Business Services department. He is tasked with gathering requirements from business users, capturing them in specification documents, creating mock-ups and prototypes, and finally implementing them by creating software applications.

In the space provided below, please provide examples of the nominee’s reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism and uniqueness of contribution. (1200 character limit for each category)

Reliability:

Cody's contribution to the University of Iowa began long before he joined Business Services department as an application developer. He began as a campus driver for Parking and Transportation (P&T) department. Impeccable quality of his work as a driver and reliable personality was recognized very early, and soon after Cody took on more responsibilities as a training assistant, where he trained new campus employees and evaluated performance of existing ones. But Cody didn’t stop there, and looked for opportunities to contribute to Parking and Transportation department outside of his regular duties. While pursuing Electrical Engineering degree and having background in computer science, Cody volunteered to develop web application to assist campus with driver’s training and evaluation processes. This application is being used at campus even by this day. By developing this application Cody recognized that he could contribute to Parking department in ways that were better aligned with his degree and career goals. This is when he decided to join a group of developers at Business Services department, which allowed him to continue to work on more ambitious projects for P&T department.
Quality of Work:

Cody is a very responsible individual, and takes his work seriously. The fact that a student campus driver was recognized and promoted speaks volumes. As a lead application developer, I can also attest to Cody's quality of work when it comes to programming. Cody is currently working on Helios application - an employee management system used by Parking and Transportation. Although he is still a student, he already shows qualities of an experienced application developer. He very quickly picks up new concepts and programming methodologies and applies them at work. Components that he developed are of high quality and are also utilized by other developers within the team. His deduction and problem-solving skills are remarkable, skills that are immensely valued in this field. As a result, solutions that Cody develops are very simple, yet very succinct - an indication of high quality work in programming world.

Initiative:

Examples of Cody's initiative:
- Cody volunteers to develop a web application to help facilitate the training of campus new employees and performance evaluation of existing drivers.
- Cody seeks out Business Services development team and asks to join.
- Upon hearing about new programming concepts, Cody finds relevant literature and learns more about it.
- Cody helps with training new developers in Business Services department, just like he did with new drivers at campus.
- Cody participates as a speaker in our regular "IT Sharing" days, where he without reservation shares new things he learned recently.
Professionalism:

Cody is well mannered, assertive and intelligent. He communicates directly with functional business experts and represents Business Services department in exemplary way. He is never late to work, notifies me way in advance about planned absences, doing his work very diligently (I never saw him wasting time on external activities like Facebook while at work), follows outlined standard operating procedures to the tee, communicates well verbally and in writing, works very close with his teammates and rightfully considers himself as a part of the team. As Cody’s direct supervisor I wish every employee would have the same professionalism as he does, and I hope that leading by example he could inspire some of peers.

Uniqueness of Contribution:

Cody’s contribution to the University of Iowa is unique because he started as a regular cambus driver, later developed himself to become cambus trainer, and currently a software developer for Parking and Transportation department. Every contribution Cody made for the University of Iowa was a building block to his own success, every experience Cody gained in his journey builds a foundation for his future career. And the best part, he did everything by himself - he mapped his own path, took the initiative to achieve his personal goals, and did everything in a way that not only benefited him, but the people he worked with and met along the way, and ultimately the entire University. It is my true pleasure to nominate Cody Geest to Student Employee of the Year award.
You may provide additional information on this nominee on a separate sheet. (2 page limit)

Name/Title of Nominator: Valerij Petrulevich - Lead Application Developer

Department: Business Services

Date: 2/16/2015
Nominee's Name: Sarah Steinauer

Nominee's Job Title and Brief Job Description (330 character limit):
Division of Sponsored Programs (DSP) Student Accounting Assistant: The position supports research and scholarly activity by reviewing budgets for externally funded projects to ensure accuracy and allowability per sponsor regulations.

In the space provided below, please provide examples of the nominee's reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism and uniqueness of contribution. (1200 character limit for each category)

Reliability:
Sarah is very reliable. She worked full time during the summer and currently works 50% time during the academic year. She provides leave requests well in advance of the date and provides timely notification when she is sick. Whenever I provide Sarah with a budget to review or special project to complete, I know that it will be done thoroughly and on time. The majority of the budgets that need to be reviewed have specific due dates and budget checking is just the first step of the review process. We are able to rely on Sarah to process these thoroughly and expeditiously while providing the next reviewer in the process sufficient time to perform the remainder of the review and submit the proposal by the deadline. The grant reviewers know that only a cursory review of the budget is needed after Sara has performed her review.
Quality of Work:

Budget review in the DSP is a high volume and complex job, including multi-million dollar proposals. Sarah knows and understands the various Federal, State, & sponsor regulations regarding allowable costs. She also takes the time to review the solicitation to ensure no additional budget requirements are listed in the announcement. She also makes sure that the University of Iowa fringe benefit and indirect cost rates are appropriately applied. If there are concerns with the budget, Sarah corresponds with the Principal Investigator or the Departmental Administrator to rectify the problem. She performs a comprehensive review and has strong communication skills. The latter is extremely important when dealing with proposals that are under tight deadlines.

She has also done excellent work on the special projects that have been requested of her. The new Uniform Guidance budget directions document on our website were created by Sarah. She has also created an ICON course that we hope to have ready for campus in the next month. Another campus wide project that is nearing completion is the budget templates for several of our most common sponsors that will also be on DSP's website.

Initiative:

On a daily basis, Sarah initiates correspondence with faculty and staff regarding budget concerns. She uses good judgment in when she needs to contact them. She has also initiated emails to the team when she finds changes in sponsor guidelines or specific program announcements. This helps to keep the team informed and keeping proposals in compliance with the sponsor requirements. Sarah also lets the appropriate individuals know when changes to our website need to be made to reflect sponsor updates. Another area that she shows Initiative in is she does research a problem before asking her supervisor or co-workers. She then brings this information with her when she presents a concern to the team.
Professionalism:

Sarah is very professional and mature for her age. She continuously demonstrates this through her work ethic as well as her verbal and written communication skills. She comes to work dressed as if she were a permanent full-time employee. She actively participates in the weekly budget reviewer meetings and brings appropriate topics of discussion to share with the P&S staff. Sarah has also lead discussions with the Grant Accounting and DSP budget subcommittee. She acts and, in return, is treated the same as the professional staff. I recall one time I had forgotten to notify Sarah in advance of one of the subcommittee meetings that she was to present some information at the meeting. Sarah only had about an hour’s notice and yet she was calm and collected throughout the presentation. She answered questions thoroughly and incorporated suggestions into project that she was working on at that time.

Uniqueness of Contribution:

Sarah always has a smile on her face, even at the end of a long day with a large volume of proposals to review. Her sense of humor has been greatly appreciated during stressful deadlines. She has the unique ability to deal with very detailed information, analyze it against complex guidelines and then communicate issues regarding her analysis in a very understandable way to an audience that often does not have an accounting background. She is more than just an accountant!
You may provide additional information on this nominee on a separate sheet. (2 page limit)

Name/Title of Nominator: Paul Below, Associate Director of Sponsored Programs

Department: Division of Sponsored Programs

Date: 02/13/2015
13 February 2015

To whom it may concern:

It is with great pleasure that I am writing this letter nominating Sarah Steinauer for Student Employee of the Year. Sarah has worked for me in the Division of Sponsored Programs (DSP) as an accounting student assistant since May 2014 and has been a great addition to our budget review team.

Sarah is a very reliable and professional individual. She works alongside DSP’s full-time, professional employees reviewing sponsored program proposal budgets to ensure for accuracy and compliance with University, State and Federal policies. Her interactions with faculty and staff across all of campus have been professional and respectful while thoroughly explaining very detailed information such as why calculation corrections are needed or why a budget item is not allowable. During our departmental budget reviewer meetings she provides excellent input and suggestions on how to improve our review process.

Sponsored research administration is a demanding and very complex field. There are Federal, State and University regulations that need to be adhered to. In addition, each sponsoring agency has its own set of guidelines that need to be followed. Sarah has quickly learned these regulations and has become a resource for campus. She is quite resourceful and takes the initiative to find the answers to questions. In the few instances where she is unable to find the answer, she judiciously asks the appropriate DSP grant or contract reviewer where to find the answer.

In addition to her routine budget review activities, Sarah has taken on several special projects. She has put together a 15 minute power point presentation, entitled Creating a Budget for a Sponsored Research Project, which we will use for training New University Departmental Research Administrators. This presentation will soon be available as an ICON course as well. This presentation provides the basics of budget preparation as well as a list of campus resources. Another special project has been developing standard budget templates using various sponsor required formats. These templates will be available for anyone on campus to use.

The project that I feel showcases many of Sarah’s strengths is her development of the document, “Developing Proposal Budgets Under the New Uniform Guidance.” (http://dsp.research.uiowa.edu/developing-proposal-budgets-under-new-uniform-guidance). Effective December 26, 2014, the University of Iowa had to begin adhering to the Office of Management and Budget’s (OMB) UNIFORM ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS, COST PRINCIPLES, AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS. This project had a very short lead time to develop and it required Sarah to research

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and understand the changes that the new guidelines would have on sponsored research budgets. She took the information and placed it in a very user friendly format that DSP disseminated across campus and posted on our website as a resource.

Sarah's leadership can be showcased by the times that she has led both budget checker team meetings as well as the grant accounting/DSP budget subcommittee meetings. She is the only student in these groups and yet she is willing to run the meeting if requested. She confidently explains the topic, takes time to ensure understanding, looks for feedback and then incorporates it back into a final product. One of these instances, I had only provided Sarah about an hour's notice, and yet the meeting was led without any problems.

Everyone that works with Sarah, both within the department and throughout campus, comments on how positive and friendly she is. She makes even the most challenging situations more enjoyable. One of the professional staff within the department has commented that even after a long day with numerous budgets to check, Sarah still has a smile on her face and a kind word to share. This positive attitude is greatly needed in the deadline driven environment that we work in.

Sarah is well deserving of the title Student Employee of the Year. Her contributions have helped out the department by filling a need for another half time professional to check external funding budgets. She has also helped campus through her informal education through emails as well as her formal web-document and power point training document. She has gone above and beyond what is expected of her.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Paul Below
Associate Director of Sponsored Programs.
Nominee's Name: Emily M. Strattan

Nominee's Job Title and Brief Job Description (330 character limit):

Student Intern for STEM Education Programs: Assist the Manager, Community and STEM Education Programs with administrative duties of the UI Health Care STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Education Programs. Coordinates STEM education experiences for more than 13,000 K-12 grade students across the state of Iowa.

In the space provided below, please provide examples of the nominee’s reliability, quality of work, initiative, professionalism and uniqueness of contribution. (1200 character limit for each category)

Reliability:

As part of Emily’s student position, she often needs to work independently. While we have weekly one on one meetings to touch base, Emily then assesses what is needed, what needs priority and follows through on all necessary details to accomplish her tasks. Emily is always to work on time, stays late if she feels something needs her attention or as not to leave something unfinished and can be counted on to be at our STEM events on time, organized and with a smile on her face.

Emily is dependable, punctual and extremely responsible in her work coordinating our STEM Education programs. She is very conscientious about her work, her responsibilities and in doing a superb job, all while always putting the reputation of the UI and UI Health Care at the forefront. I trust in her that each STEM program that she coordinates will be organized, communicated effectively to the requesting visitors and to our faculty/staff and will have a positive impact on the students attending.

I am extremely impressed with Emily’s dedication to this position and her ability to take ownership of the projects that we have assigned to her and follow through to completion.
Quality of Work:

Emily is very detail-oriented with great communication skills which is a necessity in the world of public relations, outreach education and event planning. She is always seeking input and advice and then uses the information to improve her performance and skill sets. Emily has gone above and beyond in setting up some processes for our STEM education programs that have led to greater efficiencies, better communication with our program presenters and audiences and in turn successful programs that meet the organization's needs and goals.

As the public relations arm of UI Health Care, our office is charged with building relationships and engaging our constituents both internally and externally. She has developed very positive relationships with our faculty/staff and has earned a high level of respect through her professional interactions, outstanding communication skills and friendly and approachable attitude. When engaging the community - with educators, community leaders and parents, she provides accurate and timely information and has played a key role in advancing the reputation of UI Health Care STEM Education programs throughout our community and state.

Initiative:

Emily shows confidence and a positive attitude when taking on projects and new initiatives. As a student, I'm impressed at her ability to take ownership of the projects that she is assigned as she is extremely organized, sets time lines, deadlines and follows through to meet those deadline to ensure that our STEM supplies, materials and curriculum are developed and ready for deployment for their specified event or program. Emily has led the efforts to organize our many STEM supplies and curriculum to better utilize our resources for the more than 100 STEM requests we get per year; she has built and maintained our new and improved database which is crucial to the efficiency and effectiveness of this program and she has updated and improved the quality of our outreach education leader training materials. She also was instrumental in the development of our STEM Education policies and procedures manual, a necessary manual that is and will be referred to and used by our general counsel and risk management colleagues across campus.
Professionalism:

I cannot say enough positive things about Emily's professionalism and positive can-do attitude. She is a joy to have in our office and has earned the respect of many of our faculty and staff that she has interacted with! Her communication both in email, in person and by phone is friendly yet professional. She is respected by our professional and merit level staff and faculty as if she is a fellow professional employee. It is hard to find an undergraduate student that has the level of professionalism and maturity to be able to take on multiple projects, find a way to organize and prioritize and then complete those projects at a similar level of some professional level staff. Emily has achieved that. She is always dressed very professionally and always putting her best foot forward. Emily responds to tough situations very calmly, positively and respectfully, something I often see professional level staff struggle to do. Yet Emily does so with a level of grace and maturity that is to be commended. Emily has had to think quickly on her feet when groups are late to arrive and is quick to address the situation and keep everything moving forward in a very positive way.

Uniqueness of Contribution:

Emily brings to this student position public relation skills, positive attitude, a strong desire to learn and an excellent work ethic. She has taken it upon herself to gain understanding about our department, our programs, our goals and processes to understand first what our division does, and then how she can be instrumental in the success of our goals. She has taken the knowledge and skills she has gained in the classroom and incorporated those into her work to help build efficiencies and a better process, which can continue long after she has graduated.

Using skills from her business classes, she developed a database for our STEM Education data. This allows us to collect accurate data, assess and analyze our programs in a far more efficient and engaging way than ever before. We are now able to easily and quickly assess student engagement data, volunteer efforts, number of programs and more with a simple data pull. This information is crucial in reporting to leadership the impact of our programs to build the pipeline towards health literacy, careers and align our efforts with the overall strategic priorities of the UI.
You may provide additional information on this nominee on a separate sheet. (2 page limit)

Name/Title of Nominator: Jacqueline Kleppe Williams, Interim Director

Department: UI Health Care, Marketing & Communications, External Reli

Date: 02/13/15