2008

Staff Employee of the Year

Nominations

Georgann Armstrong
Admissions Operations Group
Cindy Benson
David Blaisdell
Jeff Cable
Ruth Clark
Ted Craigie
Dick Gosselin
Jim Hanlon
Marty Hebert
Terri Hermann
David Levine
Bonnie Lewis
Michael Lovell
Kristine Macagba
Angela Maliar
Donna Marszalkowski
George Martin
Sue Maurer
Carole Parsons
Shirley Paquette
Kelley Perron
Kimberly Slover
Peter Steese
Pam Trostorff
Kristin Tupper
Jerry Volpe
Heather Zahn
Georgann is the motor that helps keep the athletic department running smoothly with all she does. She does so much work in many different areas that she could have many job titles. From making sure all of the budgets are up to date to notifying of everyone of changes, she accomplishes so much during her work day. Georgann works extremely hard throughout the entire work day answering all of the departments' employees questions and helping them to complete different tasks. She is always very helpful to everyone and all of the student workers love working with her. She works extremely hard and believe that many people don't realize how much work she actually does. She is constantly willing to help others.

~ Submitted by Staff
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Kristen West, Marty Hebert, Jaimee Hofstetter, and Kim Giles
Admissions Operations Dept.

Although this award is designed to recognize an individual, I would like to propose the recognition of 4 individuals as a collective “Employee of the Year,” because I am certain that not a single one of them would accept this award in the absence of the others, and this is just the beginning of why I believe we should nominate this group.

Very few big challenges can be managed or implemented by one person. These 4 individuals took what I asked of them, and worked together (and continue to work together) in ways that would make experts on team dynamics take notice. In point of fact, this group has lead the way in managing communications so effectively that it is clear they have been a catalyst in the doubling of applications this fall, and to their great credit, this is being done in less than half the time of last year’s record numbers. This is notable for a variety of reasons. In this year of budget reductions and uncertainty, this group is paving the way for better financial times. Also, the rapid turnaround in processing has given the admissions recruiting staff the ability to better pace their activities so that applications are being processed in less time so that students are being better served. Finally, the key component to managing financial aid, is being able to craft a class by awarding large clusters of students at the front end, to better determine how aid may need to be managed down later. The ability to complete applications earlier, allows a critical mass to be present for the purpose of awarding financial aid strategically.

And a special note should be made about how our current students benefit. The admissions operations staff treat our student workers like family. There is joy in the workplace that is centered around the students in ways that just make me smile when I see it.

~ Submitted by Staff
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Cindy Benson
International Student Advisor

Cindy's work with the international students is one of the primary reasons our retention with these students is so high. Her level of concern goes far beyond the requirements of the position and the students know this. They have come to count on her, as have I, for her willingness to help, her good judgment and her good humor. It really is no exaggeration to say that in my ten years of employment at the college, I have found no other employee, either faculty or staff (and I include myself here), who not only cares as much about the students as Cindy, but who also puts that care into rightful action, sometimes at great inconvenience to herself.

Until Cindy became the Cross Cultural Club's advisor, the club limped along, an organization in name only. Now that club is perhaps the most vibrant organizations on campus, with both international and domestic active members. In 2007, the COCA was recognized as the Organization of the Year, and its annual event, the International Festival, attended by both CSC and the surrounding communities, won the Event of the Year. This latter recognition was also true for 2008. While the students are of course responsible for this honor, it is Cindy behind the students. Without her, CCC, would simply be the lackluster organization it had been. This contribution is just one small example of the way Cindy's tireless work and good cheer help to bring the real meaning of diversity to the campus. I can only say that if more parents, both international and domestic, knew what Cindy does for their children, our application numbers would be up even higher. You could do no better than to recognize all that she does for the college, with not much recompense beyond that which is to be gained from her own sense of rectitude. She's a treasure.

~ Submitted by Staff
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Cindy Benson
International Student Advisor

Cindy has provided the international students a smooth transition into the Colby-Sawyer community by matching them with host families in the New London community as well as the CSC community. This is a great way to enhance the town/gown relations. She has gone beyond expectations to organize various events that enable international students and their host families to connect and share positive cultural experiences. Some events have also exposed the rest of the student body to the various cultures our international students represent.

Cindy has also been actively involved with the Christian Fellowship as their advisor. She takes time out of her busy schedule to meet with the group once a week and organizes rides to church on Sundays. She also assists the students in organizing trips to various events that help them grow in their spiritual lives.

If you ever talk with Cindy you will find that she is very calm and patient with the students she works with whether it be the international students, the students she advises in the Christian Fellowship Club or the students she helps in James House. She has a genuine concern for their overall well-being and takes the time to get to know each one personally. Some of the students that I have talked to have said her helpfulness and kindness have made it a lot easier to transition into college life. You will always see a smile on Cindy’s face even when she is frantically organizing last minute details of an event.

~ Submitted by Staff
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Cindy Benson
International Student Advisor

Cindy has made so many efforts to promote diversity in this college by bringing international students to the campus. Before coming to the USA, we would call Cindy at any time of the day night or weekend. Cindy replied to us and gave lots of information to us so we could handle every situation. She made us comfortable in this college and the country.

~ Submitted by Student
Colby-Sawyer College experienced several power outages during 2008 and without David B’s constant attention, whatever the time of day, and his knowledge and dedication, the campus would have experienced significant interruptions of service. His monitoring of the systems is constant and, throughout most of 2008, done without backup help. He makes time for every unforeseen occurrence regardless of the time or day. And he never complains!

IR was without a director for half of 2008. At times the department was unchecked and vulnerable to bad behaviors. David always displayed fairness and respect no matter what the situation or what the behavior. He has the ability to rise above the fray. He is diplomatic and kind. David exemplified high standards of conduct when we most needed it.

Additionally, David always makes time for anyone who asks for his help no matter what the issue.

~ Submitted by Staff
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Jeff Cable
Campus Safety Officer

Jeff is an employee who has made significant contribution to Colby-Sawyer College. Reading through the college's mission statement, I am reminded that Jeff is committed to liberal studies as a foundation for lifelong learning outside of the classroom. He provides close interaction among faculty, staff and students. He is challenged by some of the behavior issues of our students sometimes exhibit, but the issues are dealt with professionally as his role as campus safety officer. He always has time for a friendly hello and a smile and goes about his responsibilities with ease. I ask, "How does Jeff's presence benefit our students." He is seen as a person who enhances and improves the college community. This year, with increased enrollment, I'm sure there are some situations that he has been challenged by.

It is difficult to describe a particular example due to the confidentiality of the work he does. I'm certain that there are student issues that he has dealt with that we are not aware of and perhaps this in itself speaks for Jeff - high standards of conduct in his job. If a situation arises he handles it with respect and a response that is sometimes just taken for granted.

Jeff reaches out to the college community and makes it a point to know students as well as faculty and staff. Jeff is a role model for other employees.

~ Submitted by Staff
Ruth has made broad and deep changes in the adjunct hiring process over the past year. She has created a new process that is tremendously more efficient than the old method. The best part of the changes she designed is the broad impact. The new process has streamlined her own work, but has also created efficiencies in HR and payroll, IR, and other resource providers like Robin Jewell and the departmental administrative assistants. This streamlining creates clear cost savings, but also saves on time, redundancy, and minimizes frustration. Most important of all, the new process allows newly hired adjuncts (often at the last minute) to quickly mobilize to prepare for teaching a class that may only be a week or two away. Previously, we could not get newly hired adjuncts access to necessary campus and academic resources for weeks after hiring; now we can give them nearly immediate access. This creates far less stress for new hires and our staff – particularly when the hire is last minute. The resulting benefit to our students...the core of our concern is clear. All the changes Ruth created and pushed for have allowed us to increase efficiency and improve our service to our primary customer...the students.

Ruth performs at a very high level; but more importantly, she is always working to increase her job knowledge and heighten her performance. When she felt her writing skills were creating a barrier in her work, she registered for a Writing I class and is doing well and nearly finished. She wanted to have more knowledge of the adjunct ranks and salary issues, so she asked if she could do the draft spreadsheet, then have me check it – rather than my doing it and handing it off for her to finalize. Ruth understands that she needs to comprehend the ‘whole’ of the job and not simply the administrative details in order to perform at the quality she desires. Ruth expects far more from herself than do others, including me. She is highly committed to Colby-Sawyer and to excellence. She has a strong work ethic, carries a large work load, and handles all of it with a smile.

When I think about the CSC culture, I think about Ruth. We value a strong work ethic, good listening skills, a compassionate and empathetic nature, and a good sense of humor. We get all those things from Ruth, and more. She is efficient, hard working, cares about this institution and the people in it, but gets a good joke in the meantime. Ruth can work independently, but is also collaborative. She wants to learn the how and why of various tasks.....so that the work has broader meaning to her. Ruth loves it at CSC, but in reality CSC got the better deal when Ruth came here nearly three years ago. Ruth’s position puts her at the crossroads of helping faculty, staff, and students and she more than capably juggles all three stakeholders while handling an enormous workload efficiently, effectively and with great grace.

~ Submitted by Staff
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Ruth Clark
Academic Programs Manager

Ruth contributes to all of the major events of the college. She has to deal with a wide variety of constituents and is respectful in all of her interactions. She is a major contact point for our part time faculty and will work with them regardless of their needs. Changing the location and day of the family social impacted her work and she accommodated all of those changes easily.

Ruth is efficient and extremely competent. Event programs that must be put together and proof read and budgets that must be monitored are done so with precision.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Ted Craigie
Director of Financial Aid

I recall Tom Galligan stating at a recent All Campus meeting: Ted Craigie IS Financial Aid. Ted is a one-office-department powerhouse, and although he's in need of support staff, he managed great success in 2008 by himself. He met with well over 1,000 families in 2008 to discuss difficult but important information, and as we applaud Admissions successes this past year, we owe much to Ted's hard work and great interpersonal skills. Ted is also technically gifted, so perhaps he has exceeded the demands of Financial Aid Director because he can use systems with his eyes closed. In 2008, demand was greater on Ted Craigie than in past years, yet he achieved remarkably that year.

~ Submitted by Staff
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Dick Gosselin
Facilities

I would like to nominate Dick Gosselin because he helped save me from electrocuting myself! Dick has graciously helped out in all of the studio areas whenever we need our equipment serviced, so that students can work uninterrupted. Dick has always been able to keep the studios running, with safety his first concern. Recently I created a sculpture as part of a collaborative work with Brian Clancy and others helping to create the project. I told him that I had created a bit of a short cut, and had already electrocuted myself at home once—luckily, or not, it was not a fatal mistake. He looked at my extension cords with two male plugs... he took out his electrician’s certification cards and told me that this is the reason they require these in order to do electricity. Yes, I knew I had a dangerous solution, but it would only be me who might get zapped.... “No,” he said, “not acceptable,” and he helped me rewire the boxes so that they would forever be safe.

Well, I included Dick’s name on the title card because he helped me rewire the light boxes so that I would not electrocute myself again. Dick’ concern is always “other centered” and he does his work in a professional, kind and courteous manner and for this reason I would like to nominate him for employee of the year.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Jim Hanlon
Help Desk Manager

During the incoming student Orientation Jim worked effortlessly and many long nights to make sure that every student received their laptop or computer back as quickly as possible. HelpDesk Coordination! Jim has been a vibrant, integral part of the success of the HelpDesk. Jim is always pleasant, willing to stop what he is doing to assist anyone and everyone.

Jim is always happy, wears a smile on his face and is a friend to everyone! Students, Staff and Faculty never feel any different when Jim is working on their behalf. To speak of a specific example - they happen every day, every hour!

Jim is always professional, courteous, happy and very skilled in his field. He never shies away from the workload or the people who need him. Another even more appealing characteristic of Jim is his willingness to always, always, always teach someone what he knows. He has never been selfish! We would be very unlucky to lose Jim - EVER!

~ Submitted by Staff
Marty is a great example of someone who makes CSC a better place to work and be a student. Her contributions to enrollment operations through her attention to detail and her commitment to her work is exemplary. She has worked closely with the student workers in our department and she is always ensuring that their work is at the highest level, and that they are enjoying the work that they do. She brings a sense of humor and life to a job and her workplace.

Marty has an attention to detail of the highest level. She is also ensuring that her work is done with precision and that her co workers do similar tasks. She has helped to make the enrollment operations process much more efficient and organized.

~ Submitted by Staff
2008

Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Terri Hermann
Academic Assistant

Terri always goes out of her way to support students and colleagues. She attends evening and weekend events to assist by taking pictures, setting up, or to support a student activity. She works on tight deadlines with events such as the Susan Colby Colgate Scholars’ Symposium by getting the program ready and coordinating with facilities and food services.

Terri is meticulous with her help with syllabi, letters, accreditation documents, etc. She truly recognizes that everything that comes from our department or from a faculty member is a reflection on the campus.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Terri Hermann
Academic Assistant

I am recommending Terri for this award for the excellent support she has provided on an on-going basis for the Business Administration department and the ESS department. As far as I know she is the only administrative assistant that provides support for two departments that are widely separated physically in the College. They are not even in the same building. This means that regardless of the weather conditions Terri is required to leave her office and cross campus to support the departments. She does so cheerfully and with great efficiency. I have worked with Terri for nearly twenty years. I have great respect for her abilities and absolute trust in her capacity to handle requests with dispatch and in a quality manner. We rely on her a great deal and I know that when she is asked to support us in some task, we don't not have to be concerned about it being done correctly and completely. For example, the department has programs that are a part of the course such as the Senior Seminar (Bus 486) or Managerial Communications (Bus 302) when we invite a number of executives and or alumni to campus to conduct interviews with our students. Terri has been able take care of the invitations and even recruited new interviewers to assist with this effort. The amount of time this takes is significant and it assistance this provides the instructor enables us to do our jobs better. We depend on Terri a great deal and she has never failed us. She is an important and integral member of our department.

Terri is as senior employee of the College I think that based on her long record of excellent performance she has earned this recognition.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

David Levine
Technology Specialist

2008 was a transitional year for IR having started the year without a Director and several changes along the way. Through this period David continued to be a solid anchor in the department. The changes brought David additional workload but one could hardly tell. He remained positive and upbeat always tackling each service call with professionalism and enthusiasm.

David is often seen early in the morning and after hours as well. He takes the time to work with each “client” as if they are the only one. I always appreciate his creativity and inventiveness on problem solving. Additionally he takes the time to teach.

~ Submitted by Staff
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Michael Lovell
Technical Director

Michael Lovell has, since his employment as Technical Director of the Sawyer Arts Center theater, been a valuable contributor to the cultural events offered to the students and the college community. Michael has without fail met all the technical needs of each and every event produced on the Sawyer Center Stage. Michael is an extremely resourceful technician and artist. He is able to solve problems and meet all the technical requirements in a facility that is underfunded, understaffed and without necessary state of the art equipment. His resourcefulness and his ability to encourage and elicit the assistance of students is an asset to the college and the students. Outside vendors and performers are invariably and extremely appreciative of Michael's expertise and help. Michael is able to fulfill all the requirements of a technical director and designer with aplomb.

Michael designs the sets, lighting and sound for all college productions. His designs are highly creative and provocative. He often elicits assistance from students in all aspects of his designs and implementation. He is especially appreciated by the Dance club for his support and advice he has given throughout all his interactions with the Dance Club. Michel Lovell is an asset to the students and the college community.

Michael is an intelligent and talented artist and designer, I have often remarked to students and colleagues that just being around Michael is an education in itself.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Bonnie Lewis
Lab Manager

Bonnie does more than anyone to make the biology majors feel apart of an organization, primarily through working with student workers. While she expects them to be responsible, students feel at home here, which is unusual for first year students.

Bonnie has been vigilant about holding to the budget constraints and also has been effective in holding student workers to high standards, using probation when necessary which resulted in a student changing his approach both at work and in class.

Although Bonnie interacts with a small subset of students and other staff, her impact is huge.

~ Submitted by Faculty
Bonnie Lewis is the Natural Sciences Lab Preparator, Coordinator of work study students and runs the LSPA laboratory. She keeps all our labs running smoothly by having everything requested in place as well as foreseeing other things that may be needed. She is an amazing mentor to the majors in the department, especially those who do work study in the department. She maintains contact with students after they leave the college. She was the first to know that an alum was applying to medical school and that 2 alums were engaged. She was very active in making certain that the ENEBC conference ran smoothly in Spring 2008.

Students often come to Bonnie to vent and seek advice. She is supportive, but does not immediately jump to their defense, but seeks to have a full understanding of the situation and hastens a resolution to the problem. That is a common occurrence, one this fall; Bonnie can be depended upon to be open yet with appropriate limits. She makes possible the highest standards of student workers--and they love working for her.

She co-advises the Biology Majors Club and adds life to the expanding group. She will be instrumental in making the Biology Student/Faculty game night a success this weekend.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Bonnie Lewis
Lab Manager

She helps organize the student workers in the department and keeps all of the many lab classes running smoothly. She assists seniors in their experimental protocols. She organizes BioLunch and other events for students, including a game night in Ivey. She is active with the Bio Majors club.

She gives a lot of her personal time to involve students in departmental and campus wide events, and always do so with a positive attitude.

~ Submitted by Faculty
Bonnie Lewis is the glue that keeps the Natural Science laboratories running smoothly during the semester, and helps to create a great sense of community among students and faculty. Bonnie’s efforts span beyond Department efforts, as she is also responsible for running the water quality lab for the state. Bonnie mentors Colby-Sawyer student interns regularly during the summer months who work with her to collect, analyze, and manage water samples from lakes throughout the region. Bonnie acts as a supervisor, roll model, and trainer for student workers within the Department and mentors and trains student interns with the water quality lab.

Bonnie is well organized, and has high expectations for the student workers she supervises as well as for herself. She models excellence in the workplace. The amazing part about Bonnie’s efforts is that she has the ability to really connect with students, and to motivate them to put their best effort into the tasks at hand, even if it can sometimes be less than glamorous, such as cleaning glassware for a laboratory preparation.

Bonnie also uses these work opportunities as teaching moments, often having students review how to make specific concentrations of chemicals for a laboratory preparation for example. She creates a setting of mutual respect while being playful and good humored with students and faculty. Bonnie goes above and beyond the expectation of lab coordinator by being active in the Biology Majors club and participating in club activities such as helping to start the Biology Majors late night events, helping the club with their fund raising events and providing a great deal of support by making the students feel comfortable and part of the Natural Science Department family. It is a great achievement to help to foster a sense of community and belonging in the department and much of the credit in the Natural Sciences belongs to Bonnie’s efforts. It is always with a smile and humor that greets the students and faculty. She is a valued colleague and fantastic mentor for our students. It is with full support that I nominate Bonnie Lewis to receive the Staff Employee of the Year Award.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008

Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Bonnie Lewis
Lab Manager

Bonnie is a ray of sunshine in our department. She is lots of fun, and gets great work from our students workers, who adore her. She really has helped to foster a great sense of community in Ivey. Labs always run smoothly because she is so well organized.

Bonnie makes sure that things are done right so that labs will work well. She models excellence for our student workers and makes sure that they understand the importance of taking pride in their work. My daughter had the good fortune to work as an LSPA intern 2 summers ago, and she learned so much from Bonnie about maintaining high personal standards doing quality work.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Kristine Macagba
Resident Director

Kristine always steps up to help anyone in need, whether it be a co-worker, student, or club. She brought NRHHA Organization to campus as a student club, which won many awards in the 2007-2008 year as a new organization on campus. She is also the class of 2009 Advisor, and goes above and beyond to make sure the students have an amazing experience.

Kristine reaches so many students in her different roles on campus. She take the time to work with RAs in Rooke, and it a continuous presence in the building. Students respect and admire her, and she is an amazing role model. She invites students into her home and allows them to confide in her without judgment. She is often running around campus to events to support students, beyond what is expected of her.

I believe many of the students of Colby-Sawyer will leave her feeling blessed to have had Kristine as part of their lives here. And I know many of the staff feel that was as well. She an amazing co-worker and sincere friend.

~ Submitted by Staff
Kristine Macagba
Resident Director

Kristine is an amazing person to have on our staff. She has contributed so much of her time to helping students and fellow staff members to help the college meet their mission. She started and chairs the NRHHA on campus which has been doing very well and getting many students involved. Kristine works hard and is very productive, whenever I have a question she knows how to answer it or is able to tell me where I can go to find an answer. She will never turn someone away when they are looking for support or help and is always willing to lend an ear if you just need to talk to someone. Along with her job Kristine has been the captain of the Fun People, one of the intramural volleyball team, for a few years and is seen at college sporting events and programs a lot, supporting her students and co workers in whatever it is they may be participating in. All of her work is done with a smile on her face and a sense of humor that makes her such an amazing person to work with. She has been a great mentor for me as I have transitioned into my position here in Residential Education and I think she has been for many others as well.

Kristine works with Citizenship education. Many times she spend late hours of the night in community council and dedicates her time to that. She makes sure that everyone has their fair trial with the council. She is a hard worker and always willing to help someone out and answer questions. Kristine is dedicated to her work and is always thinking of how things can be better and won't stop working hard until something is at the best it can be.

~ Submitted by Staff
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Angela Malair
Housekeeper

I would like to nominate Angela Malair for staff employee of the year. Angela is the custodian for one of the most public buildings on campus, Sawyer Center, and she keeps our house of the arts like it is her own home. Indeed she is part of our family and we could no do our work without her diligent and difficult work. Angela goes beyond what is expected of the job because she cares about the students and how the studios and performance areas work for them. She washes down floors so that our students are safe from airborne dust in ceramics; she keeps all of the building clean so that it not only looks good, but so that it is a healthy place to work and study. Angela’s work in Sawyer Center is an enormous undertaking for one person and she works tirelessly all day in order that our patrons and our users of the building to feel comfortable. Angela understands the needs of art and she appreciates the arts for what they bring to human kind. I applaud Angela’s commitment to doing a job well done and for her efforts every single day on our behalf.

Angela understands the needs of art and she appreciates the arts for what they bring to human kind. I applaud Angela’s commitment to doing a job well done and for her efforts every single day on our behalf.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Donna Marszalkowski
Housekeeper

She has made the effort of getting to know everyone by name in Shepard, and makes sure that our Hall is very clean every day by the time she leaves. She makes sure to stop and have a short conversation with you if you are walking by.

When someone in the hall has a concern about cleaning she makes sure to spend the extra time that it is done properly and the job isn't just half done. She always expresses that she "does it for you guys". She truly cares about us and is always there for a good laugh.

Even though she does both Shepard and Austin, she treats both equally, and cleans them both very well.

~ Submitted by Student
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Donna Marszalkowski
Housekeeper

Donna comes in everyday and works very hard to make sure our hall (Shephard) is spotless. She makes an effort to learn everyone's name and make sure everyone is happy with the way the hall is being cleaned and kept. She also cleans another hall (Austin) and is always hard at work when you run into her. She is such a hard worker and one of the nicest people you will ever meet.

Donna is always here early in the morning until the very end of her shift working so hard to make sure out bathroom is spotless. She makes sure we have plenty of toilet paper and plenty of paper towel for us. She cleans everything to make sure our dorms are spotless and in tip-top shape.

Donna is one person who is easy to get along with and who will never complain about the work she has to do. She goes far and beyond what many people would do for their job. She always has a smile on her face and is always working hard to do the best she can do to make everyone in both Shephard and Austin halls happy.

~ Submitted by Student
George Martin, the consummate athletic professional, came forward when our volleyball coach left Colby-Sawyer a week before the start of the season. He offered to coach the team knowing that it would mean an overlap in his coaching responsibilities, and virtually "no break" in his schedule. He did this for the program and in particularly for the student-athletes to ensure that their experience here in this particular year would be special. A number of them are seniors and he has always followed this program as he was the former coach of the program for seven years. And despite the success of former coach, Chad Braegelmann, Coach Martin has surpassed his win record, and now as a true basketball coach he is the most winning volleyball coach in Colby-Sawyer's career. But this is not about the wins and losses, it is about a man that stepped to the plate for our students, and I for one am eternally grateful.

Coach Martin holds his players to a high standard, he is fair, enthusiastic and players love to play for him. He has operated with the best interests of this college, this program and the personal and academic development of each and every student-athlete with a sense of joy, humor and deep conviction in the value of team play. He is one of the best motivational coaches that I have ever worked with in my entire career at Harvard, Dartmouth, or Wheaton Colleges. He is very special!

From my perspective there is no one more deserving of this award in this particular year.

~ Submitted by Staff
Shirley Paquette
Housekeeper

Shirley is a very hard worker. She keeps our building clean and always has a smile on her face. Her cheerful disposition helps to make my day a little brighter. Every morning she wishes me a good day, and she always waves when she sees me in passing. I feel that Shirley represents the good in life. Shirley helps to keep Lawson a wonderful place to be. I hope she realizes just how much she means to our dorm. It just would not be the same here without her.

~ Submitted by Student
Carole Parsons
Registrar

Carole goes above and beyond to help students and faculty. She offers to do a RADAR appointment with each senior to avoid any graduation catastrophes. She works tirelessly with chairs to get times and schedules necessary for a coherent curriculum.

Carole’s respect and concern for process and standards is apparent in all decisions that she makes. Whether she is dealing with transfer credits, a substitute course, or curricular issues, she is fair and principled.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008 Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Kelley Perron
Administrative Assistant

Kelly was able to overcome a lot of stress and deal with a huge pile of documents late in the summer in order to provide medical clearance before all the new students arrivals. She's also very involved with the well-being of her campus coworkers, even sending cards to just to spread some cheer.

Kelly is always cheerful, friendly, and extremely professional. She goes well out of her way to share her positivity with everyone she works with at CSC. Our students are lucky to see her smiling face when they come to Baird.

~ Submitted by Staff
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Kimberly Slover
Director of Communications

Kimberly has a demanding job handling Colby-Sawyer College communications. She has impressed me as a thoughtful, resourceful, talented, and clear communicator, and also an effective coordinator of a wide variety of internal and external College communications - many with short deadlines. On that basis alone, I think, Kimberly qualifies for the award.

But this year she has done even more. She took on a major additional, time-consuming project that will have significant implications on the future success of Colby-Sawyer in achieving its mission. Last December, Tom Galligan asked me to undertake - with Kimberly - a major research project for him and his senior staff. The objective of the project was to determine the current perceptions of Colby-Sawyer among nine different constituent groups - faculty, staff, students, prospective students, parents of students, alumni, etc. It was felt that the findings from this Image & Reputation Survey would help them refine the Strategic Plan for the College.

Kimberly took on this project in addition to her other responsibilities. She did so enthusiastically and with a major commitment of her time. From February until September she organized 16 focus group sessions and oversaw the recruitment of participants. She also conducted a supplemental electronic survey. She summarized the findings of every session, and even ran two sessions herself. Most important, as the survey findings became clear, she added value to the interpretation of them and the determination of next steps. She became an indispensable partner and contributor for me on the project. She exhibited a high level of professionalism and dedication to the task from start to finish. The results of the research project should help Colby-Sawyer improve its reputation and image, and thus help the College achieve its mission.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Peter Steese
Head Athletic Coach

Coach Steese has coached the men’s soccer team here at Colby-Sawyer for the past 18 seasons along with the men’s and women’s track and field team for the past 13 seasons. Every season he has been dedicated to spending countless hours both on the field and off to making his team better. Whether it is recruiting every weekday evening and weekends to bring both his team and the college community a better place. In addition to coaching Coach Steese is also a Professor of philosophy each year.

Whether it is on the field or off, Coach/Professor Steese creates a positive working environment. His office door is always open to anyone who needs guidance or simply a friendly person to talk to. In the classroom he challenges each student to look inside him or her self.

~ Submitted by Student
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Pam Trostorff
Senior Staff Assistant

When I came into the college the first week, the office I was assigned had two broken chairs, and a lot of flies! Pam went above and beyond by helping me locate and move higher quality furniture, taking a seat cushion home with her and cleaning it OVER THE WEEKEND and bringing a plant that she had transplanted over the weekend. I will never forget how thoughtful she was and welcoming. She exemplifies the type of personality I should hope to think C-S aspires to create in our students!

Pam also helped me get set up with a cap and gown for graduation proceedings. Everything she does is organized. She’s incredibly thoughtful.

I've told Pam this directly, but I do think she deserves some formal recognition! You don't need to keep this nominator confidential!

~ Submitted by Faculty
I would like to nominate Kristin Tupper for the Staff Employee of the Year Award. Kristin is a professional: her work, her people skills and her understanding of the appropriate required processes for every circumstance, whether she is working to solve problems students bring to her office, or in her working with other constituents on campus, she meets and exceeds every possible definition of the term professional. Kristin operates the art office in a very capable, courteous, and efficient manner. Kristin directs the enterprise known as the Fine and Performing Arts Department with a beautiful balance of tact and toughness. This enterprise includes a montage of student needs, directors’ needs, performance requirements and performers’ needs, artists/teachers and their needs, the needs of exhibits and art studios, even pianos that need tuning and lumber orders that need to be delivered to the right place, and it all takes careful planning and a keen understanding of people and process. Kristin’s hard work makes the work of teaching easier.

My life as a teacher at Colby-Sawyer College is better for Kristin’s careful and important work, but most of all she supports all of us, students and faculty alike, as we do our work day in, and day out. The faculty and students all depend on Kristin we cannot thank her enough for her hard work and dedication to her job.

~ Submitted by Faculty
2008 Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Jerry Volpe
Student Development Operations Manager

Jerry Volpe is the axle that keeps Student Development rolling. His work and knowledge from the several years of working and supporting different areas of the college has made him one that is sought after daily by students, staff and faculty. Jerry, with that warm smile, never says “NO” and often will go beyond the needed request with suggestions and improvements. There is often a line outside his office waiting their turn for help with their computers, a sounding board, needed advice or brainstorming, just to name a few.

The commitment he has to the whole college community is outstanding. His high standards, and consistent, excellent job performance shines not only throughout the Student Development and Residential Education Departments but also his service to Safety and Telecommunications when needed. He became the perfect Inn Keeper at Colby Farm as he greeted and saw to our visiting guests many needs. In the evenings he often attends or may facilitate resident hall programs. He is on several committees throughout the college community and has been a class advisor.

~ Submitted by Staff
2008
Staff Employee of the Year Nomination

Jerry Volpe
Student Development Operations Manager

His past experience as an RD is often seen in his work as operations manager as someone who sits around the student development directors table and helps make decisions. He is always thinking of the students and how to make this a better place for them. He recently started taking part in the on-call rotation and is a valued addition to the team. As registration chair to a regional conference I have needed extra support from Jerry. Since this is something extra it isn't anything he needed to help me with but he was always willing to provide support, even after hours to make sure my job went smoothly. His last words to me as I left for the conference was call me if you need me. You have my cell phone number, just call. Luckily I didn't have to.
Thanks to Jerry who trained me well and now I am better prepared to do my job on campus using the skills he taught me on the computer.

Jerry meets every project with a smile and a friendly "Sure I can do that". He goes above and beyond to get us the information we need to do our jobs better, even on short notice. He has worked closely with me to make my work easier and has helped me to gain skills in access and excel that I am able to apply to my daily work. He gives up his own time to help solve problems at the last minute and works tirelessly to get us the support.

I know I am not alone when I say I can't imagine working in this department without Jerry's help. I have been around long enough to know what it was like with out him and don't want to go back. He helps everyone in so many ways. We have all been able to become more efficient using his technology knowledge. He is very deserving of this award.

~ Submitted by Staff
Late in 2007 Heather moved into a new position in Human Resources. She very quickly learned her new position. Heather is a great resource for all employees who have questions about benefits and other HR information. It is wonderful to have her greet you in the HR office. She is welcoming and warm. What many people do not know about Heather is that she continued many of her old responsibilities while taking on her new role. And for those duties she gave up, she has been a wonderful support. She continues all of this with a laugh and a smile.

Heather is always so helpful no matter what she is doing. She has a high level of customer service which is appreciated by everyone!

~ Submitted by Staff