2021 STAFF AWARDS

TUESDAY, APRIL 20

UMKC
Day in and day out, our UMKC staff perform the many important and necessary tasks that keep our university functioning. Today, we take special notice of outstanding individual staff members; it is also a day to recognize and share our appreciation for all our staff and their vital contributions. It is clear, especially during this past year, that our staff take great pride in their work and all of our university community takes pride in them.

UMKC makes a substantial difference in our community. Staff members make a substantial difference for UMKC.

C. MAULI AGRAWAL, PH.D.
Chancellor
I want to congratulate each UMKC staff member on your persistence, tenacity, innovation and devotion to achieving our mission during 2020, the year of the pandemic and the year of pivots.

You have endured seemingly unending change daily, and sometimes hourly, to policies, responsibilities and how we care for one another. It has been necessary to grant everyone grace as we worked to meet the needs of our customers — students, faculty, fellow staff and visitors.

We’ve gone beyond doing more with less to figuring out how to best use resources to efficiently work while intentionally looking out for each other and our students. We now refer to this as creating a culture of care.

Today, we gather virtually to recognize the accomplishments of some of our colleagues: longevity of service, outstanding performance as recognized by the various units, exceptional service and commitment to the work specifically aligned with our institutional pillars.

I hope you will take this time to celebrate with each colleague enjoying a well-deserved award.

In the midst of our celebration, please know that each and every one of us is to be commended for the extraordinary way we came together, to keep our institution operating safely and effectively. It has been a very challenging time but we proved our resilience to meet the various challenges.

As the chair of your UMKC Staff Council, I want you to know we see you, we hear you and we appreciate you and all that you do for this institution. Most of all, WE THANK YOU.

Let’s keep up the good work with enthusiasm. ROO UP and lead!

Sincerely,

Karen L. King, M.A., MBA
Chair, UMKC Staff Council
Thank you to our 2021 Staff Awards Selection Committee Members

Bryan Boots, Faculty Senate
Ruth Cain, Staff Retiree
Sean Fleming, Staff Council
Caroline Moriarty, Student Government Association
David Oliver, Board of Trustees
Anne Hartung Spenner, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Marketing and Communications
SERVICE MILESTONES

Recognizes staff members who have given five or more years of service to UMKC and are celebrating a milestone anniversary in FY 2021.

5 YEARS

Brian Anderson  Scott Guerrero  Jeffery Ross
Sara Atchison  Phyllis Gunnels  Johari Russell
Diana Atty  Kimberlee Kalaiwaa  Michael Russo
Ebony Berymon  Yvonne Kretsinger  Emma Satterfield
Thomas Boogher  Dara Macan  Emerald Scott
Charles Bradford  Janette Martinez  Mallory Snyder
Maury Brown  Lindsey Mayfield  Alexandria Spenser
Brittany Bummer  Brenton McCoy  Suman Suman
Brent Burchett  Susi Mickey  Theresa Surprenant
Andrea Carr  Christina Miller  Ashley Swanson-Hoye
Johanna Comes  Kathleen Moburg  Elora Thomas
Chris Curtis  Cody Newill  Alexa Troyer
Michael Driskell  Joshua Nicholson  Stan Viebrock
Pamela DuPriest  Christoffer Nielsen  Christopher White
Alison Eaton  Matthew Osborne  Sally Williams
Marjory Eisenman  Kerry Overfield  Robert Williams
Sally Ellis Fletcher  Nicole Patterson  Tracy Wilson
Charles Emerson  James Pearson  Erin Winter
Shaun Ferguson  Carolyn Pepper  Tammy Woods
Daniel Folk  Laura Peterson  Sybil Wyatt
Erin Gilmore  Rashaun Riggans
Megan Gonzalez  Lisa Rodriguez
Brett Guemmer  Monica Rolf
SERVICE MILESTONES

10 YEARS

Philip Albert
Gerald Blanton
Lauren Butler
Belkis Cabrera Rodriguez
Becky Callen
Amy Carlson
Katey Collins
Christopher Crowell
Michelle Cunningham
Christina Davis
David Day
Chelsie Friedman
Russell Friend
Jalonn Gordon
Sheri Gormley
Rhonda Hughes
Elizabeth Johnson
Julie Koch
Sharon Lindenbaum
Fang Liu
Deanna Marx
Timothy Maybell
Courtney McCain
Russell Melchert
Jill Meyer
David Murray
Tressie Perkins
Christine Popoola
Christia Popoola
Lauren Posey
Steven Ragan
Susan Siegel
Susan Simonds
Jodi Troup
Marilyn Turbush
Donna Vestal
Steven Waldman
Theodore White
Christopher Winders
Jing Zou

15 YEARS

Jasmine Abdel-Khalik
Arminta Brown
Amy Cole
Amber Daugherty
Samuel Granade
Chante Green
Carol Hintz
Caitlin Horsmon
Diana Jones
Donald Ledford
Sarah Linder
Robert McGee
Valorie Moore-Porter
Denise Owen
Jennifer Quaintance
Jameson Rinehart
Jennifer Roberts
Jeremy Schliesman
Jonathan Schouten
Stella Szymanski
Michele Taylor
Laura Taylor
Erin Williams
Sandy Wilson
SERVICE MILESTONES

20 YEARS

Christopher Boyce
Anna Doss
Rodney Douglas
Charles Hunter
Kimberly Johnson
Gerri Leamon
Jewel Madsen
Scott Mallen

Suzette Marchbanks
Keith Phillips
Donald Ray
Adam Shoemaker
Janet Stebbins
Daniel Stegner
Shameal Trice

25 YEARS

Sharon Adams
Eric Dennis
Janet Dexter
Linda Fox
Maqual Graham
Tanya Henderson
Christopher Hickman
Kathryn Houston
Dennis Nedblake
Sidne Ward
Karen Wilson
SERVICE MILESTONES

30 YEARS

Nancy Bahner
Kevin Ellsworth
   Linda Fox
James Gaar
Danita Johnson
   John Johnson
   Roy Potter

35 YEARS

Romualdo Abella
Brenda Bolden
Michelle Cone
   Winifred Davis

40 YEARS

Leisha Manning
   Jill Reyes
Recognizes staff members who have graduated with a UMKC degree in Spring 2020, Summer 2020 or Fall 2020.

Benjamin Bissen
Taylor Blackmon
Jamisha Cooper
Mackenzie Doss
Jason Foster
Alissa Gratts
Scott Guerrero
Cory Kinder
Ellyce Loveless
Shana Malone
Courtney McCain
Alison Murdock
Johari Russell
Elizabeth Valle
Brian Westhues
Margaret Wight

Spring 2021 graduates will be recognized after degree completion at the 2022 Staff Awards.
SUPERVISORY DEVELOPMENT SERIES GRADUATES

Recognizes staff members who have successfully completed the UMKC Supervisory Development Series, a foundational management and leadership course with university-focused content.

Anne Allen
Maryjane Bruning
Erin Bumann
Brittany Bummer
Jessica Elam
Jeremy Ferguson
Collin Foster
Megan Frasher
Margo Gamache
Elizabeth Hanssen
Laura M. King
Laura W. King
Nancy Kunkel
Daniel McCarroll
Steve McDonald
Amy McKune
Zangi Miti
Shani Negron
Casey Ramsey
Adam Shoemaker
Kristina Shultz
Lindy Smith
Robin Sommer
Janey Stephens
Ashley Swanson-Hoye
Ashley Sylvara
Heidi Updike
Clay Vernon
Sherrie Watkins
Kaity Woody
Robert Wren
Recognizes staff members who are currently participating in the Dr. Elson S. Floyd Administrative Leadership Development Program, a UM System course where emerging and current leaders can expand and refine their leadership skills.

Nathaniel Addington
Matthew Brown
Katherine Garey
Lisa Mallow
Rosa Nataraj
Mary Parsons
Jennifer Sackhoff
Tammy Welchert
SERIES ON LEADERSHIP ESSENTIALS GRADUATES

Recognizes staff members who have successfully completed the Series on Leadership Essentials Program, a UM System course where employees can develop their skills in the areas of communication, engagement, giving and receiving feedback and navigating change.

Kenneth Bledsoe
Maria DeSimio
Connor Fender
Collin Foster
Megan Frasher
Jalonn Gordon
Elizabeth Hanssen

Meg Hauser
Jonathan Hern
Amelia Howard
Brent McCoy
Myisha Sims
Sandra Smith
Paul Wagner

STAFF COUNCIL DEDICATION AWARD

Recognizes a staff member who has made significant contributions to the Staff Council and its initiatives by enhancing communication, volunteering service to the university and community and providing opportunities to develop staff professionally and personally.

Hannah Litwiller, senior student recruitment specialist, Office of Admissions
LIVING THE VALUES AWARD

Recognizes staff members who best exemplify excellence in demonstrating the university’s key values: learning, diversity, integrity, accountability, respect and collaboration.

Obie Austin, director, student affairs, Student Health And Wellness
Michael Bongartz, director, university police, Finance and Administration
Thomas Boogher, associate director, IT, Information Services
Cindy Brown, dental assistant II, School of Dentistry
Rosie Challacombe, senior academic advisor, College of Arts & Sciences
Sharon Colbert, curriculum coordinator, School of Nursing and Health Studies
Clint Dominick, certified strength and conditioning trainer, Intercollegiate Athletics
Makini King, director, program/project operations, Division of Diversity and Inclusion
Brad Martens, director I, student support services, School of Education
Rachel McCommon, coordinator for diversity and inclusion strategic initiatives, School of Medicine
Steve McDonald, recruitment and admissions coordinator, School of Pharmacy

Zangi Miti, senior strategic communications associate, Strategic Marketing and Communications

Mary A. Matturro Morgan, manager III, business administration, Henry W. Bloch School of Management

Helen Perry, manager, student services, UMKC Conservatory

Emily Reeb, senior library information specialist, University Libraries

Ashley Swanson-Hoye, manager II, student support services, School of Law

Jodi Troup, director, lab operations, Office of Research Services

Jane Vogl, senior executive assistant, School of Computing and Engineering

Abby Weiser, senior enrollment advisor, Office of Admissions

Asia Williams, business operations associate II, School of Biological and Chemical Sciences
EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT SUCCESS STAFF AWARD
Recognizes a UMKC staff member who has made significant contributions to the academic, social, emotional and/or overall wellness of students.

Marjory Eisenman, assistant dean, School of Computing and Engineering

EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH AND CREATIVE WORKS STAFF AWARD
Recognizes a UMKC staff member who has made significant contributions to the university’s research, creativity and innovation efforts.

Charles Brandon King, business operations associate I, Institute for Human Development

EXCELLENCE IN ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH STAFF AWARD
Recognizes a UMKC staff member who has made significant contributions to the university’s engagement and outreach efforts.

Martha McCabe, senior director program/project operations, School of Computing and Engineering

EXCELLENCE IN MULTICULTURALISM, GLOBALISM, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION STAFF AWARD
Recognizes a UMKC staff member who has made significant contributions to the university’s diversity and inclusion efforts.

Dylan Burd, academic advisor, College of Arts and Sciences
EXCELLENCE IN PLANNING, OPERATIONS AND STEWARDSHIP
STAFF AWARD
Recognizes a UMKC staff member who has made significant contributions to solve longstanding problems and found new ways to collaborate across departments, develop revenue and increase enrollment.

Huan Ding, program/project support coordinator I, School of Computing and Engineering

RISING STAR AWARD
Recognizes a UMKC staff member who in their first five years of continuous service has made significant contributions to his or her area of the university community.

Margo Gamache, senior academic advisor, Honors College

CHANCELLOR’S STAFF AWARD FOR EXTRAORDINARY CONTRIBUTIONS
Recognizes a high-performing UMKC staff member who demonstrates an exceptional ability to foster collaboration, communication and cooperation among colleagues and university constituents and relates their work to the mission and values of the university.

Anthony Maly, senior program manager student support services, Office of Student Involvement
Special thanks to our UMKC Staff Council for their continued support and advocacy.