

# September Star Awards

## September Winner!



### **Katelyn Sandoval, Student Health and Counseling Services**

Katelyn Sandoval has worked for Student Affairs for over 10 years, with the last 6 of those being at SHCS. Besides providing excellent direct services to students, Katelyn single-handedly built a Peer Counseling program at Sac State from the ground up, which provides additional support to students in need, and also provides training for students interested in going into the field of counseling. She collaborates with the the PRIDE Center to offer Queer Connect, a weekly support group for LGBTQIA+ students, and she is a trainer for the Body Project program in Health and Wellness Promotion. She is a team player, and the counselors look to her for her guidance and leadership skills.

## September Nominees

### **Ashok Penumalli, Information Resources and Technology**

Student Affairs has a wonderful program in place to recognize members of the Student Affairs family that go above and beyond. But what about someone outside of Student Affairs that has enabled/helped/assisted/explained and demonstrated those traits and more to a whole department within Student Affairs? How do we recognize those individuals? Let us start at the beginning...two years ago we (The Financial Aid Systems Team) were new, very new and needed lots of guidance and handholding to understand and effectively do our job .... Which of course is, to get money to our students PRONTO so they can attend Sac State. We relied heavily on Ashok Penumalli in IRT to help us navigate the moving of files/information between our campus and the State and Federal governments.He has been and continues to be a very helpful and patient asset to the Student Affairs family. He truly has gone ABOVE AND BEYOND not once or twice, but consistently on a very regular basisThere are processes that are only done once a year and some that are done daily but no matter what the process or issue is, Ashok has been our right hand person every step of the way. When the

systems team came on board Ashok scheduled bi-weekly meeting to go over any issues we might have, and now two years later he continues to schedule those meeting “just in case” we have any pressing time-sensitive issues that need immediate attention. His dedication to the Financial Aid Office does not end at the end of the day or even at the end of the work week, we have on several occasions worked with him after hours and sometimes late into the evening or on the weekends to resolve issues. He makes time to address not just Production Issues, but also to teach us skills to enhance our knowledge base. We ask you please consider Ashok for a STAR award, because he has been a shining star to the Financial Aid Office he really deserves to be recognized.