

Outstanding Manager Award 2023



My Sayamnath, Academic Advising Center

My exemplified all the qualities one would want in a manager and supervisor. Her willingness to go above and beyond for our team is admirable. My plays a big role in why our team is successful.

My Sayamnath represents what a true leader is. My's unwavering dedication and passion have significantly impacted the Academic Advising Center. My's commitment to providing exceptional customer service to staff is unparalleled, as she consistently goes above and beyond to ensure the needs of staff are met with utmost care and attention. My exemplifies the core values of Sacramento State, treating both staff and students with respect, kindness, and inclusivity. Her unwavering dedication to the team within the AAC has fostered a supportive environment. Moreover, her outstanding leadership has elevated the team's performance and professional growth, inspiring staff to reach new heights. My's deep commitment to the AAC, students, and Sacramento State has consistently shown through, making her an invaluable asset to the organization.

My Sayamnath is someone we want to recognize for the Outstanding Manager Award. She displays exceptional leadership to the staff, constant support, and works to elevate the office/staff. She always keeps her staff in the loop of updates, changes and information that is important to our day-to-day tasks. She is always asking her team about their goals and finding

ways to create opportunities for us to expand our knowledge and skills as professionals. Lastly, she is always open and encourages new ideas, skills and improvements to make the team the best we can be. My oversees a group of 16 advisors at the Academic Advising Center. My cares about every single staff member and impacts them in a positive way. My is also dedicated to Diversity Equity and Inclusion, through training and one on one conversation My makes sure that the whole advising team is inclusive to all students. My always highlights how we do not turn any student away from advising based on their circumstance, identity, or classification. The beauty of advising is that we serve almost everyone and anyone (I saw almost because some populations MUST meet with specific advisors). My also looks at what DEI initiatives or things can we implement in the future to dive deeper into DEI work as an office who doesn't have a "target" population. This shows that My is always aware of areas we can continue to improve on and that things are always on her radar. My demonstrates innovation and creativity within the office by bringing new programs and ideas. She also collaborated with many different offices and programs. My has been working with the MLK center and CSUS Housing to get advisors out to assist students with advising. During COVID she also facilitated and created training for CSUS professionals to be able to do general education advising. My works to create schedules for advisors to be at Orientation bi-annually and assist with advising. She also works with admissions and outreach to assist with student retention efforts. My is always elevating staff and impacting the office in a positive way. We have advisors in house at the Academic Advising Center and we also have Integrated Advisors in the various colleges as well as coordinators. My always makes sure that everyone is included, thought about, and recognized. Through meetings, one on ones, or staff retreats My is always highlighting, reminding, and encouraging the great work that everyone does. My creates opportunities for us to show our strengths or incorporate the great we do. Two examples are: One of the advisors edited 3 old versions of our advising sheet, they condensed it to one page, made it more user friendly and fixed some errors. My made sure to let that advisor share that information with the team and share the advising sheets. Another example is when an advisor wanted to create a FAQ sheet for the advising center, My encouraged them to send them a final draft so that it could be sent to all advisors and shared with incoming advisors that could benefit. Those are just two examples of ways she supports the team and what we all do individually. Lastly, she has a commitment to her staff by always being transparent, having an open-door policy, and always checking in on her staff to see how their personal life is going. She makes sure the staff is heard, seen and taken care of. She is always there supporting the team and has everyone's back. My is a fearless leader - we are truly lucky to have.

I, and I think I can confidently say I speak on behalf of the whole Academic Advising Department, that My Sayamnath should be selected and recognized for the Outstanding Manager Award. My fosters a diverse and inclusive environment in Academic Advising that supports the well-being of staff and students. Her efforts create an environment that celebrates differences and ensures that every member in the department feels valued and included. This commitment is not only reflected in her words but more importantly her actions. "I'm just a

team’s message away” really means she is just a Teams message away. Through creating a culture of respect and appreciation it encourages staff to be proactive and is reflected in the rapport in our staff Team Meetings. Furthermore, My encourages and supports ideas of innovation and creativity. With an open door-policy for personal or professional matter, she is always willing to listen to new ideas or collaboration opportunities that may elevate Academic Advising and its programs beyond Student Affairs to contribute to the overall goal of student success. She leads by example and the amount of time and work she puts into the department is undeniable. Doing more with less, her dedication to diversity and inclusion, innovating approach, and work ethics are an exemplary example of Sac State’s values and what a leader in higher ed. should be

Below: Staff from the Academic Advising Center accepted My's award on her behalf during the Holiday Celebration



Outstanding Manager Award 2023 Nominees

- Theresa Barajas, Financial Aid & Scholarships
- Julie Carroll, Financial Aid & Scholarships
- Rahsaan Ellison-Johnson, Disability Access Center
- Erik Ramirez, Equity & Affinity Centers
- Jeff Weston, Student Service Center
- Jennifer White, Financial Aid & Scholarships