

Star Award Winner and Nominees!

March 2021

March Star of the Month



Jason Raley, Financial Aid

Jason demonstrates integrity. You can depend on him to complete a task correctly. He works hard to identify issues and collaborates with his work lead, Financial Aid systems team and the State Program Coordinator to quickly resolve and find solutions to prevent hardships to students. One example of Jason's innovation was when 2nd chance pell for incarcerated students was adopted at our campus. Assisting these students required thinking outside the box since they do not have access to computers. Jason created new forms and communicates regularly with site coordinators to ensure this unique student population has access to the same service as students who attend class on campus. Jason is inclusive not only to coworkers to the student body as a whole. He thinks of others safety and wellbeing, he is accommodating to coworkers needing assistance and walks students through the sometimes difficult Financial Aid process so they understand what is needed and leave feeling informed. Jason has been providing Star Service to the students of Sacramento State for over 15 years!

March Nominees

Maggie Hansen

Maggie has been innovating campus tours since the beginning of the pandemic by offering virtual campus tours to all the prospect and applicant students. She makes sure that the tours are inclusive and entertaining. He tours are a huge benefit to bringing in students each semester. She is clear on showing off the beautiful campus. She has made it her mission for campus tours to be consistent in the services provided throughout the pandemic. She has also innovated the Admitted Student Weekend which is a massive event to bring in accepted students. The event has had an outstanding start by having almost 1,000 register in the first week. She has brought together a great

team to deliver each service through out each day. She is the glue that holds the event together. Always open for input and opinions, she is a great leader.

Valerie Regner

Valerie's commitment to serving students this year is outstanding! Through this unpredictable year, she has remained flexible and available. Recently with vacancies in our department, she has stepped up to oversee our in-person operations and is on campus daily, ready to serve. She is a great leader and excels at mentoring the next generation of leaders through her work supervising over 50 student employees. Go Val!

Tanner Landon

I am nominating Tanner Landon, Marketing Specialist for ASI Peak Adventures for the Shining STAR award. Tanner started working at Peak Adventures as a student in 2015 and became and joined the full-time team shortly after graduating.

Tanner is a huge asset to not just ASI, but Student Affairs and the Sac State campus at large. He serves on a variety of committees including: ASI Marketing, Minor Design Change Committee, Hornet Social, Weeks of Welcome, Breaking the Silos, as well as department outreach to collaborate for projects including the Peak Adventures Diversity Panel and #Tuesday Talks.

Tanner keeps us relevant by staying current with trends, technology, and culture and does this with respect and integrity. Tanner cares about our students and providing meaningful opportunities in the outdoors.

COVID-19 has made things tough on everyone, but Tanner faced all of the changes with a smile and positive attitude. On days when I was struggling at home with a 3 year old, Tanner was always available for an upbeat conversation that brought me a bit of human connection and sanity.

Tanner deserves to be recognized for everything listed above and his professionalism, teamwork, and dedication to Student Affairs.

Noel Mora

Noel Mora serves as Program Coordinator of the Serna Center where he oversees programming and services for Chicax/Latinx students and students from other underserved backgrounds. As a former student leader and ASI president, Noel always puts students first. He exemplifies Sac core values of inclusion, equity, and cultural humility through his interactions with students, campus partners, and the community.

In addition to being a full-time professional, Noel is pursuing a Master's in Public Policy and Administration; thus, he stays quite busy. However, Noel always goes beyond the call of duty to provide students the support they need. He advocates for student involvement and advocacy through the cultivation of programming and resources that reflect the experiences of underserved communities. For example, Noel leads the Chicax/Latinx Recognition Ceremony, which offers Latinx families the opportunity to celebrate their student's academic accomplishments in a culturally inclusive way, and in their native language.

Noel also has an impressive record of campus and community engagement. For the 2020 Census, he helped lead efforts to get students counted and increase voter registration/participation on and off-campus. While he is the newest coordinator in our Strategic Student Support Programs unit, Noel has quickly established himself as capable, reliable, and ready to advocate for more inclusive and equitable practices. It is no coincidence that Noel is sought out by community members for insight, support, and leadership. He aims to empower the Chicax/Latinx community and other underserved populations, and his commitment to social justice is evident in all of his work. Noel reflects the core values of Student Affairs, making him an exceptional candidate for the STAR Award.

Callie Mulvihill

Callie worked to update the Financial Aid Excel spreadsheet to include more complex formulas that not only help the Athletics Compliance Office, but also make information tracking for the Financial Aid Office easier. She was able to move all 21 sports over in one day! The innovation to do that is great and she collaborated with the ACO and got feedback from the Financial aid office as well.

Laurie Dahlberg

Laurie Dahlberg is the foundation of the Student Athlete Resource Center. We rely on her academic advising and policy expertise daily and she is always willing to take the time to teach and help her colleagues, coaches or the student athletes. In a partnership with the Registrars office, Laurie has taken the time to become trained in transfer credit evaluations to better serve our student athlete population. Laurie has a passion for getting students to graduation as efficiently as possible and empowers her students to be independent critical thinkers. To say it metaphorically she "teaches students to fish, instead of catching the fish for them." In addition to her advising and TCE responsibilities, Laurie has also been apart of 2 search committees this Spring. Overall, she challenges all of us to better advisors and actively strives to improve the student experience. She is the best!

Kendrick Daly

Kendrick Daly inspires me. They are a Residence Life Coordinator, Conduct Hearing Officer, Supervisor of the Student Safety Ambassador (SSA), Residence Hall Association (RHA) Advisor and they do it all. Kendrick Daly was a driving force for RHA students being recognized with the 2020-2021 Pacific Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls (PACURH) RHA Building Block award at the PACURH Regional Business Conference (RBC) which is Sac State's RHA chapter's first bid for a regional award.

RHA this year has had a successful food committee collaboration with Dining Services and also has taken out the challenge from housing to create two outdoor programs before the end of the year. Kendrick Daly has also been recognized as an Advisor Of the Month by PACURH written by multiple of Sac State's student leaders. Kendrick Daly has also gone on to get two of our RHA executive members regionally recognized by writing nominations for them.

Additionally, along with their duties as a supervisor of the SSA program, they juggle running a large and new organization that has homegrown this year that is being renowned nationally.

Here is an excerpt from the students: "In the three years, I have served as part of RHA, I have seen many advisors filter in and out of RHA. However, our current RHA Advisor, Kendrick Daly, has been the only advisor that has entirely motivated and supports our RHA on a much deeper level, which is why I want to recognize their outstanding contribution this month.

Adam Schobinger

Adam has continued to work with the SARC to make transfer evaluations effective for coaches. He had a setback early in the semester, but used that as a learning experience to move forward and make the process better. His integrity and service to the prospective student-athletes and coaching staffs is always high. He is a great collaborator when he needs or gives assistance in all areas of Athletics Compliance.

Rebecca Woolston

Rebecca continues to make the process we have created with Housing better. She works with her contact in the Housing Office to collaborate on ideas to improve our access so that we can continue to serve our student-athletes and coaches. She includes us in her brainstorming sessions before going to the Housing Office. Her service is outstanding and she truly cares for the student-athletes and incoming student-athletes.

Kate Lockwood

Despite a crazy year with many personal disruptions, Kate has managed to rise to the occasion, including taking on roles and responsibilities that are outside of her comfort zone, including Career Center social media, which is a huge job requiring a lot of innovation. She continually steps up to the plate, always with authenticity and good humor. My favorite Kate quote from this year (maybe not exact, but close). "I try to remember every day to choose to love."

Eric Espejo

The pandemic has changed the way we serve our students, and this change has come with many challenges. One challenge for the SSC was to integrate more financial aid processes into the Center. I asked Eric to take the lead on this effort and he has done an amazing job. Working directly with the leadership of FA he developed a training program, quality assurance process, AND conducted all the trainings. The effort he has put in has had a great positive effect on the quality-of-service students get. Thanks to Eric's efforts the partnership between SSC and FA is stronger than it has ever been. Eric is a stellar example of what it means to lead by example and a model what it means to be a Hornet! I highly encourage that Eric be considered for a Star of the Month Award.