

Sauk Valley Community College
April 25, 2022

Agenda Item 3.1.3

Topic: **Recognition of Faculty, Staff, and Team of the Year Recipients**

Mission: **Sauk Valley Community College is dedicated to teaching and scholarship while engaging the community in lifelong learning, public service, and economic development.**

Presented by: **Dr. David Hellmich, Dr. Jon Mandrell, Kathy Dirks, and Nicole Schafer**

Presentation:

The College recognizes the honorees for the 2022 Outstanding Awards.

Outstanding Full-time Faculty – Jeffrey Johnson, Instruction II - Multicraft

Jeff Johnson has been employed as a production worker, facility maintenance group leader, operations supervisor, technical skills supervisor, and a multi-craft technician for Raynor Garage Doors for over 25 years and has taught electrical and industrial technology at SVCC on a full-time and adjunct basis.

Outstanding Full-time Staff – Arlind Bajrami, Enterprise Application Administrator

Arlind’s nominator says, he “steadily shows his willingness to do his job and expand his knowledge and he takes pride in learning all that he can in his field.” Arlind’s nominator also mentioned the extensive work that he did to ensure that at-home computers were working properly for employees during the COVID-19 lockdown. Arlind is described as always being willing to assist, and never shying away from a task.

Outstanding Part-time Faculty – Katy Keller, Adjunct – Health Professions, Nursing

Katy Keller is a graduate of Sauk Valley Community College from the ADN Program. She also graduated from the Northern Illinois University with a Bachelor of Arts in English and will soon begin a Master’s degree program in Nursing from Western Governors University. Katy was employed by KSB for 18 years as a CNA and Registered Nurse in the Medical/Surgical department. She has taught as an Adjunct Nursing Instructor at Sauk Valley Community College since August 2018.

Outstanding Part-time Staff – Christine Palacz., AmeriCorps Program Specialist

Christine’s nominator says, “Her greatest strength is her ability to develop relationships with all those surrounding her. She is genuine, empathetic, and optimistic at all times. She is always willing to lend a helping hand to others without hesitation. She is able to bring out the best in those around her.”

Shared Team Achievement Award – Learning Commons-Library

The nomination shared the following about the Learning Commons Library staff: “In the past months, library staff members have been adapting and creating library research guides aimed at helping patrons find and use library resources for course topics and for concepts related to library research. They have created or identified tutorials aimed at helping users understand how to use online library resources. Decisions about adding new library books and research databases take into account the learning styles, preferences, and capabilities of all patrons.

The library team understands that not only are we helping students to achieve successful outcomes in their courses of study, but also helping them learn how to be successful college students. The concept of library anxiety – being unsure of how to navigate library resources, in need of librarians’ help, yet reluctant to approach them – has been studied for decades. Library staff understand this anxiety can be a deterrent to students and other users, and they take pains to meet requests for assistance with patience and good humor.”