

Sauk Valley Community College
April 24, 2023

Agenda Item 5.1.1

Topic: 2023 Faculty and Staff 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: Drs. David Hellmich and Jon Mandrell

Presentation:

The College recognizes the recipients of the 2023 Outstanding Awards.

Outstanding Full-time Faculty – Maggie Young, Associate Professor I – Radiologic Technology

Professor Young creates a successful learning environment with her positive attitude and encouragement. She incorporates many group learning activities into her courses and constantly strives to help the students be successful in her courses. Maggie serves as a club advisor and spends time with her students outside of the classroom with club activities. Graduate surveys and course evaluations have positive comments on the quality of instruction that Professor Young provides. She has converted most coursework into accessible documents and has updated online and hybrid courses to include a welcome video. Maggie has integrated a virtual classroom in face-to-face courses. Simulation training and high-fidelity manikins are keys to ensuring access and real-life clinical experiences.

Outstanding Full-time Staff – Jane Verbout – Learning Commons Tutoring Coordinator

Jane demonstrates selflessness by encouraging a team approach. She seeks input from stakeholders and is willing to incorporate viable suggestions such as expediting the sign-in process for the tutoring center. Jane models a positive and upbeat attitude while fostering a climate that promotes student success. She maintains a pleasant demeanor and interacts with students in a dignified manner. Her unwavering character and cheerful disposition serve as a positive role model for the students she serves and the employees she supervises.

Outstanding Part-time Faculty – Darin DeHaan, Adjunct Faculty – Criminal Justice

Darin has taught as an adjunct for 14 years at the College. Over that time, he has helped to increase the College's online access to criminal justice courses by developing multiple online courses like *CJS 101 Introduction to Criminal Justice*. He was a part of the effort that brought a College Resources Officer to campus in 2018. He created a consulting firm, ASIST (Active Shooter Incident Survival Training), that works with educational institutions to prepare for crisis incidents. Darin has expanded his teaching by shifting to the SVCC Police Academy, where his expertise as a former police chief and current city manager is invaluable. Besides being an educator, Darin develops the local workforce by working with students and graduates to help them find positions in law enforcement. He upholds the value and quality of education at the College by stating, "As a graduate of SVCC, I know the staff work hard to provide a quality education and a conducive learning environment for the student. Working with students and watching them master a new topic of knowledge is very rewarding."

Outstanding Part-time Staff – Lyndsey Kelly, Administrative Assistant, Adult Education

Lyndsey serves as the front-line team member in the Adult Education program. She is the first person to greet new students as they enter the office, and she is the first point of contact for potential new students and community members on the phone. Lyndsey always has a smile on her face when greeting students, staff, and members of the community. Many students are anxious about returning to the classroom. Lyndsey's positive attitude has a way of putting students at ease. She helps to establish the office as a place of comfort and acceptance. Lyndsey provides support to program staff. She is always available to answer questions pertaining to student records, data entry, and testing procedures. Program staff appreciate her willingness to help. If she does not have an answer, she will seek it out.

Shared Team Achievement Award – Impact Program

The Impact Program is the pinnacle of respecting the worth and dignity of all people. It encourages all students in SVCC's six-county district to capitalize on their fullest potential by earning their tuition at Sauk, regardless of their major, citizenship, income, ethnicity, race, grades, religion, sexual orientation, or gender. The Impact Program Coordinators ensure students have equitable opportunities to volunteer in their community. The nonprofit organizations (known as Volunteer Partners) consist of over 140 organizations that work to better the lives of people in their community. Students can access the Impact Calendar that has at least one volunteer opportunity every day.

The Impact Program has motivated over 700 students to volunteer nearly 10,000 hours in the Sauk Valley since June 1, 2022. These students learn the value of being responsible for massive community-wide events, programs, offices, and initiatives. These opportunities teach students how to communicate with each other, community leaders, and the general public. These volunteer roles often teach students critical thinking and problem-solving skills. The Volunteer Partners have responsibility for volunteers who are much younger than their current volunteer base, which allows them to connect with and invest in the youth.