

EXEMPLARY EMPLOYEE AWARDS

Sept. 17, 2020 Remarks

- As I was reading about this year's Exemplary Employee Award recipients, I was so impressed and inspired by the work, and breadth of representation from around the university.
- This year's recipients come from all over campus and perform a diverse range of essential services in student affairs, campus cleaning, tutoring, advising, maintenance, human resources, libraries, and marketing, among other areas of the university.
- Your accomplishments reveal more than your success at Oakland; they show us the quality of who you are as a person. There are many examples:
 - "Katie is the consummate teammate and role models leadership."

- “Joshua inspires his coworkers to want to cooperate.”
- “Marlene puts in countless hours to accommodate the many requests that come her way.”
- “Everything Clarisse does is always 110 percent.”
- “Willie deals with difficult questions with poise and a warm smile on her face. She has transformed Learning and Organizational Development at OU.”
- “Amy’s positivity is an immeasurable asset to Kresge Library.”
- The praise delivered by your colleagues published in the award booklet is only the beginning of understanding the true impact of your contribution to Oakland University.

- While the faces, departments and expertise vary, the recipients of the 2020 Exemplary Employee Awards share many traits.
- The descriptions of their work reflect a deep passion and commitment for helping people, and tireless support for the mission of Oakland University.
- To be exemplary is not simply to be held up as an example.
- Exemplary in the context of these awards means each of you are a pillar upon which the operation, function and progress of our university depends.
- For this university to be strong, each link in the chain that makes up the great chain that binds us as a community must be strong. And each of you, for the many reasons cited in your profile, play a vital role and are an essential link that ties our community together with a sense of purpose and pride.

- Your support can be seen in how you help prepare students; make sure our campus buildings are clean, sanitized and safe; connect with students in times of need; advocate for new and better ways to make sure OU is a learning and development organization; and, provide our outstanding faculty with the support they need to engage and inspire our students.

- Simply put: Each of you lead by example and represent the best qualities of a compassionate and engaged university.

- On behalf of the OU leadership team and the OU community, thank you for your work, determination and dedication.