Advancement's Stevens is President's Employee of the Year[1]
[2]

Darrell Stevens, Office of Advancement, is the recipient of the President's Employee of the Year Award[3]. He received the recognition and appreciation of exceptional job performance, which includes a $1,000 award, during a Tuesday ceremony presented by System Staff Council at 1800 Grant St.

A graphic designer for advancement operations based in the Broomfield office, Stevens works on more than 100 marketing, stewardship, engagement and strategic fundraising projects annually.

"He amplifies CU's identity," said colleague Tim Skillern, assistant director for marketing and creative strategy, in introducing Stevens. "We're very lucky to have him."

Among other testimonials in his nomination were:
"His dedication, leadership and skill as a graphic designer for the System Office for Advancement has improved the sophistication of fundraising at every CU campus." "He has consistently exceeded our expectations delivering elaborate and detailed creative design well beyond our imaginations." "Even when he's not working on a project, he is always willing to lend a hand to a piece to make sure that CU is well represented, and that it will be the best that it can be."
Said Stevens, "It really feels good to know the work I've done has helped people."
[4]

System Staff Council also recognized the other nominees for the President's Employee of the Year Award:

Calvin Anderson, director of financial systems, Office of University Controller. He was involved with the launch of PeopleSoft 9.2 and leads a team responsible for ensuring finance and reporting systems support the requirements of system and campus controllers. From the nominators: "For many years now, Cal has been our 'go-to guy' when a report doesn't tie out or some transaction processed incorrectly as he can quickly research this issue, diagnose the cause, and suggest and help implement a remedy."

Denise Nakamichi, customer relationship manager, Procurement Service Center. She manages PSC events at all campuses, ensuring value in shows and forums for a broad range of internal and external stakeholders. From the nominators: "Denise is someone who is admired by her colleagues for her hard work and dedication, as well as her upbeat and positive attitude."

Amar Tekriwal, senior software engineer, University Information Systems. He is responsible for building and maintaining data connections between core UIS systems and for connecting those systems with those at the campuses. From the nominators: "Amar is a stellar employee who continually goes above and beyond his job duties in order to ensure the best possible outcomes for his customers and UIS."

Alan Vidmar, assistant director of enterprise content services, University Information Systems. He started at CU 25 years ago as a work study employee in housing, then the library, then financial aid. He joined UIS as part of the CUSYS implementation. From the nominators: "Alan has a passion for process improvement, which I believe is a product of his many years on campus, both as a student and a longtime employee."

Kimberly Wendelin, records manager, Employee Services. Her responsibilities include records management for all past and current employees, department administration of the OnBase records management application and much more. From the nominators: "She is adaptable, flexible and inclusive in these roles and consistently demonstrates a willingness to assist others contribute to the team's efforts and goals."

Also recognized was nominee **Paula Manzanares**, professional assistant to HR in Employee and Information Services, who passed away this week after a battle with cancer. She was described as "completely accountable, unfailingly dependable, uncompromisingly ethical and consistently courteous." President Benson led a moment of silence and also recalled a recent phone call to her.

“She was always positive, always upbeat,” he said. “We’re going to miss her a lot.”

Wednesday’s reception also celebrated staff members who reached a years-of-service milestone during the 2016-17 fiscal year. In introducing those in attendance, President Benson was joined by Tara Dressler, chair of System Staff Council; Jamie Joyce, System Staff Council events committee chair; and Leonard Dinegar, senior vice president and chief of staff.

Those marking milestones are:
[5]

30 years
Maxine Plum Carl Sorenson [6]

25 years
Linda Money Carolyn Peet Alan Vidmar [7]

20 years
Jon Arnold Jeff Gloyd Joseph Hogan [8]

15 years
Travis Chillemi Molly Doyle Jennifer Hane Jeremy Hueth Jonathan Levenstein Milagro “Misa” Lobato Lisa Lucio Mai Ngo Wynn Pericak Annalissa Philbin Kirsten Schuchman [9]

10 years
Judith Anderson Scott Frey Karen Ichiba Tiara Lewis Shannon Matthews Kris Milanak Katherine Miller Angela Sanchez Gabrielle Sawusch Kathleen Sutherland Elizabeth Volkert Patrick Warwick-Diaz Jordan Wight [10]

Five years
Stephanie Ball Eric Bolinger Paul Brodnik Darren Chavez Karthik Chigururu Jonathan Danzl Marina Durbin Patricia Durbin Natalie Ellis Kevin Emslie Sarsen Tacy Harris Sara Hart Joshua Hernandez Jill Ibeck Sivachandraprasad Jaligama Jamie Joyce Craig Leedholm Dennis Lintvedt Anne Marcovecchio Lonnie Maynard Ryan McDaniel Teresa Meier Jennifer Montez Allison O’Malley Mark Ostrander Cynthia Pasquale Paula Ramirez Adam Rodriguez Kaylee Rowe Stephanie Sheldon Laura Siedzick Samuel Spence Anthony Stonaker Yuko Stossel Sasikala Sunkari Soumya Suresh Lili Xu
See more photos from the event here.[11]

Colorado's population growth to slow in 2018, but new jobs still coming [12]

Global wind energy to shift southward in years to come[13]

Alumna, noted author and environmentalist to lead December commencement[14]

Nursing program exposes students to community health through first-time parents [15]

CU Denver celebrates first named building[16]

ASPIRE alumna receives alternative licensure teaching award[17]

AIDS Clinical Trials Unit celebrates 25 years of progress[18]

American pre-health undergraduates, international scholars celebrate ISCORE [19]

Smith shares story of living with Treacher Collins syndrome[20]

Williams' personal tragedy leads to helping others [21]

Killian earns Quality Matters certification[22]

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