



October 3, 2022

Dear UMBC Colleagues,

President Sheares Ashby and Provost Rous have announced the annual solicitation of nominations for the following staff awards:

- USM Board of Regents Awards
- Presidential Distinguished Staff Awards
- The Jakubik Family Endowment Staff Award
- The Karen L. Wensch Endowment Award for Outstanding Non-Exempt Staff
- The Teresa Lupinek Endowment Award for Outstanding Exempt or Non-Exempt Staff

We all know that the work of exceptional staff is a very important part of what placed UMBC once again as a national leader. Here's a list of our recent rankings:

- National leader in innovation (#6) and undergraduate teaching (#6) (*U.S. News & World Report*)
- A leading world university, including in social and economic impact (*Times Higher Education*)
- Two Rhodes Scholar recipients and two finalists in the past five years
- Top graduate programs in psychology, engineering, statistics, physics, biological sciences, computer science, chemistry, fine arts, and more (*U.S. News & World Report*)
- Global leader in geosciences and space science (*U.S. News & World Report*)
- "Best Value" university (*Princeton Review, Kiplinger's, Forbes, Money, and Fiske Guide to Colleges*)
- Nation's #1 producer of Black undergraduates who go on to complete a Ph.D. in the natural sciences or engineering and #1 for Black undergraduates who complete a M.D./Ph.D.
- National leader in annual NASA funding (#13) (NSF)
- Among the top universities in federal support for geosciences, atmospheric sciences, and ocean sciences (#36); social sciences (#46); computer and information sciences (#55); and physical sciences (#57) (NSF)
- #101 top public institution for federal R&D expenditures (NSF)
- "Best College to Work For" for over a decade (*Chronicle*)

UMBC has officially reached the nation's highest level of research performance. The Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education announced that UMBC has been placed into the category of **doctoral universities with very high research activity**, popularly known as Research 1 (or R1). UMBC is now ranked as one of only 146 R1 institutions nationally, including 107 public and 39 private universities.

Whether working in the forefront or behind the scenes, staff hold key positions across the campus supporting UMBC's mission and success. We need your help to identify and nominate the very best of UMBC's outstanding exempt and non-exempt staff members for these awards. We ask the campus community to pause just once a year to (1) think about who are the staff whose extraordinary contributions deserve to be recognized, and (2) take the time to nominate these deserving staff, so the entire campus can celebrate their contributions to UMBC's success. *We believe it is more important than ever to recognize outstanding staff.*

Please take a moment now to visit the website **2022-23 Staff Awards**. Here you will easily find:

- Criteria and eligibility for each award
- Nomination form
- Directions for submitting one nomination letter and candidate resume (or professional history form, see website)

The deadline to submit nominations is October 31, 2022. Thank you so much for your help!

The Staff Awards Committee (SAC)

- ❖ Ray Soellner, Vice President --PSS
- ❖ Tim Lynch, Senator -- PSS
- ❖ Desiree Stonesifer, President – NESS
- ❖ Helena Dahlen, 2021-22 Presidential Distinguished Staff Award, Non-Exempt Staff
- ❖ Vic Madrid, Medical Director & Assoc. Dir. of Health Service, Retriever Integrated Health
- ❖ Michale Sheckleford Tallon, Director, Labor & Employee Relations, Human Resources
- ❖ Holly Cudzilo, Program Management Specialist, Individualized Study Program
- ❖ Diana Smith, Program Management Specialist, Undergraduate Academic Affairs

Contact any SAC member or Martina Buckley, SAC staff, at mbuckley@umbc.edu, if you have any questions