BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES FACULTY AND STAFF

AWARDS
As a member of the Department of Biological Sciences maintenance team, John Bowman is gratefully acknowledged for how he has really stepped up over the last year during a time when the maintenance team was short-handed due to a resignation and experienced a very intense workload.
Mark Christie
Associate Professor

Mark Christie is recognized for the exemplary work he did chairing the multi-department search committee for the College of Science inaugural cluster hire in the area of Origins of Life. He led a highly effective and successful search, and helped cultivate a collaboration mindset in the committee and for the hiring process.
Michele Holcombe  
*Instructional Specialist*

Michele is recognized for her excellent work in support of the BIOL203/204 labs in CHAS, with ~1,300 students a week, and particularly for the way that she has taken on new tasks to expand her knowledge of the subject matter and her position. Along with teaching labs for our students, Michele oversees 2-3 of our weekly staff meetings, preparing the staff to teach the upcoming labs. She has also been instrumental in developing new material for the course, writing case studies for our recitation course, creating lab material for our online lab platform, and contributing questions covering the lab material for exams.
Andrea Kasinski is honored for doing outstanding work responding to key needs for the graduate program, creating an updated website and online handbook, and overhauling the new graduate student orientation to make it more time-effective and pertinent to students' needs and interests. This new orientation even included her personally hosting the welcome party.
TEAM AWARD

Keith Lank
Facilities Administrator

As a member of the Department of Biological Sciences maintenance team, Keith Lank is gratefully acknowledged for how he has really stepped up over the last year during a time when the maintenance team was short-handed due to a resignation and experienced a very intense workload.
Jeff Lucas is being recognized for genuinely caring about students' wellbeing and professional development. He helps students develop dissertation research that reflects their future career goals, and makes sure that graduate students become well-rounded scientists that will make meaningful contributions to the field.
As a member of the Department of Biological Sciences maintenance team, Troy Lyman is gratefully acknowledged for how he has really stepped up over the last year during a time when the maintenance team was short-handed due to a resignation and experienced a very intense workload.
Seema Mattoo is recognized for her work promoting the field of microbiology across campus through her leadership roles as Executive Chair for the Microbiology, Immunology & Infectious Diseases Training Group within the PULSe Graduate Studies Program; as a member of the Purdue Institute of Inflammation, Immunology and Infectious Disease Leadership Team; and as Deputy Convener for the Microbiology Research Area in the Department of Biological Sciences.
CUSTOMER SERVICE AWARD

Kim Peterson
Senior Administrative Assistant

Kim is gratefully acknowledged with this award for being a go-to person with a wealth of knowledge and an answer to the many questions posed to her, while also being kind, patient, and accepting. She has been invaluable to new department members learning their positions and the workings of Biology. She also shows a positive attitude with her willingness to pitch in on any project, take on any role that needs to be filled, and do innovative problem-solving.
Savannah earns the Leadership Award for her highly valued work this year with a number of departmental needs and initiatives stretching well beyond her duties in CHAS. She was a significant player in department-wide efforts on lab decommissioning and inventory of equipment and chemicals; development of Standard Operating Procedures for a variety of duties of the operations team; and stepping into increased responsibility with our Chemical and Biosafety Committee.
PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Tracy Reifel
Administrative Assistant

Tracy is celebrated for her strong work as the administration assistant supporting the BIO team in CHAS, and for her significant achievements and service contributions. These include completing Accomplished Clerical Excellence (ACE) program, serving as a member of the departmental Staff Advisory Committee, the College of Science’s Staff Professional Development Fund Committee, and Purdue's university-wide Campus Support Staff Advisory Committee.
CONGRATULATIONS

Thank you to all of our honorees for your persistent efforts to create a culture of respect, inclusion, innovation and growth.

We appreciate you!