The staff members listed below were mentioned a total of 5 or more times in the 2018 Staff@Work survey for their exceptional work and contributions to a positive work environment! The information below includes the actual number of times their names were mentioned and the comments provided (if any).

WE ASKED...

Would you like to highlight a colleague or manager who has made a particular impact on creating a positive work environment?

10 mentions

ANDRINA MARSHALL
SCHOOL OF PHARMACY/PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE

- “She LEADS BY EXAMPLE: she is reliable, loyal, confidential, positive, honest, and has a high level of integrity always GOING BEYOND ‘the call of duty.’”

- “Always a source of POSITIVE LEADERSHIP and guidance. She is kind, RESPECTFUL, and SUPPORTIVE to all of her staff. She is fair and treats everyone the same and expects the same from everyone.”

- “Andrina Marshall has been a WONDERFUL mentor and coach during the past year. Her efforts are truly appreciated.”

10 mentions

STEPHANIE NAVRIDES
ELECTRICAL/COMPUTER ENGINEERING

- “... continues to make ECE a wonderful place to work. It is evident that she CARES DEEPLY for her staff and goes out of her way to make us feel APPRECIATED, especially in times of high stress.”

- “She is incredibly KIND and PERSONABLE and provides us the opportunity for professional development and continues to allow us to build community within ECE.”

- “RESPECTFUL of staff, responsive, inclusive, calls people in respectfully when they are not gender inclusive, understands a holistic perspective of students.”

- “Accessible, rewards employees with THOUGHTFUL cards, comes and talks in person when things don’t go right with a professor. She works with staff to understand where they’re coming from when advising them.”
EVELYN HIDALGO
DEAN’S OFFICE - MEDICAL SCHOOL

• "She is a STELLAR SUPERVISOR and goes out of her way to foster an INCLUSIVE WORK ENVIRONMENT and is a strong supporter of the WORK/LIFE BALANCE philosophy."

• “She is a strong advocate for staff engagement and development. She continually seeks innovation and technology enablement strategies so that staff efficiently and effectively do their jobs with the appropriate resources. She is also a stellar supervisor and goes out of her way to foster an inclusive work environment and is a strong supporter of the work/life balance philosophy.”

JEFF ORGERA
VCSA STUDENT RETENTION & SUCCESS

• "He is ACCESSIBLE, KIND, ENCOURAGING, and I have learned so much from him.”

• “He ADVANCES student-centered programs and innovations which make a tremendous impact on our students.”

• “AVC Jeff Orgera contributes greatly to creating a POSITIVE and PRODUCTIVE work environment.”

• “He is a WONDERFUL person and WORKS HARD to make sure everyone on the team is valued and respected.”

LINDSAY ROMASANTA
VCSA STUDENT SUCCESS PROGRAMS

• "She is AWESOME and EXCELLENT SUPERVISOR and colleague and feels that upper management should continue to nurture and support all she has done for the university and her unit(s) in a short amount of time.”

• “She is a WONDERFUL person and WORKS HARD to make sure everyone on the team is valued and respected.”

• “She embodies and is a manifestation of UCSD's Principles of Community in her actions, presence, and way she operates at UCSD.”
SAMIRA KHAZAI
COMPUTER SCIENCE ENGINEERING

• “She is FAIR and is genuinely interested in her employees and in IMPROVING the department.”

• “Samira Khazai, the MSO of Computer Science and Engineering, has been a STRONG and EFFECTIVE LEADER for a department and staff that has flourished under her leadership.”

• “She goes OUT OF HER WAY to see how she can improve the department as a whole and helps me understand how I'm contributing to the department and university.”

• “She is honestly the BEST SUPERVISOR that I have during my entire career in higher education.”

• “She WORKS HARD to create a positive work environment and is the best supervisor.”

JEFF WADELL
HOUSING, DINING & HOSPITALITY

• "Jeff Wadell has been a ROLE MODEL and had a positive impact on my career here at UC San Diego.”

• “Jeff Wadell LEADS BY EXAMPLE and holds others with the highest regard. He is WELL-RESPECTED by his staff, peers and co-workers.”

• “He has made SIGNIFICANT EFFORTS to spread a culture of compassion and caring for employees, and transforming employees into leaders.”

JONATHAN WHITMAN
ADMINISTRATIVE TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

• "He is very SUPPORTIVE and Creates a POSITIVE and TRANSPARENT CULTURE in the team.”

• “He DRIVES the team to work towards the GOALS of the university.”
**Malia Mahi**  
**Housing, Dining & Hospitality**

- "I appreciate that she took the time to understand by work style, communicates in a transparent way, and she is so GENUINE in our conversations."
- "I am excited to come to work because I feel valued and supported. Thank you, Malia!"
- "She is a WONDERFUL COLLEAGUE who manages often very challenging responsibilities with POSITIVITY and a genuine approach."
- "Her GREAT ATTITUDE and COLLEGIALITY are a valuable asset to UCSD."

**Eric Mah**  
**Dean's Office - Medical School**

- "He LEADS BY EXAMPLE and he doesn't give up."
- "He is PATIENT and kind- couple that with the ability to effectively perform his duties of Asst. Dean and you have a SUPERSTAR!!!"
- "I am so grateful to be on his team."
- "He was incredibly knowledgeable, well-spoken, and diplomatic."
- "... it was a huge relief to meet an individual at UCSD who had a keen understanding of what STRONG, EFFECTIVE and decent LEADERSHIP should look like at a world-class institution."

**Todd Adams**  
**BFS - Procurements/Contracts**

- "His individual commitment to effective and supportive leadership, excellent service and professionalism on every level is remarkable."
- "I feel extremely fortunate to be a member of their team."
MAEGAN CAREY
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

- "She has been so SUPPORTIVE in making sure I am on the career trajectory that I want to be on, adjusting tasks if need be."
- "She is very ENCOURAGING and SUPPORTIVE when it comes to any training I am interested in that will contribute to my career development."
- "She does a GREAT JOB recognizing contributions, ENCOURAGING collaboration, and identifying/developing pathways for individual growth."
- "With all the work she has on her plate, she still makes sure that staff is happy and everyone is given the opportunity to grow and succeed."

MICHELLE GHANI
REGENERATIVE MEDICINE

- "Michelle Ghani has been the absolute BEST SUPERVISOR."
- "Not only is she an expert in every part of her job, but she consistently GOES BEYOND her job description HELPING others in our division and in other departments."
- "She has an ENORMOUS IMPACT across campus and in her daily interactions with coworkers."
- "The positive work environment she creates and the constant support she offers makes UC San Diego a great place to work and a safe place to work."
- "I've never met a better worker or a better supervisor."
- "Michelle Ghani is one of the most supportive managers I've ever had the pleasure to know, and is always helpful and positive."

KRIS FITZSIMMONS
POLICE DEPARTMENT

** No Comments **
KIM-LOAN JAMES  
VICE CHANCELLOR HEALTH SCIENCES CENTRAL SERVICES

- "She does everything in her power to allow growth, and is also supportive in her actions. She encourages us to voice concerns, and come up with solutions and then she will support the decision."

NANCY HO-WU  
LITERATURE

- "She’s a great leader and understands personal issues and allows for a lot of flexibility in our department."
- "She is an amazing manager. She is the strongest leader I have ever seen. She is fair and I feel highly undervalued for all that she does for our department."
- "Nancy makes me feel welcome at work and creates an environment where I can be open and direct about my ideas and thoughts."

KARIM HUSSEIN  
CONTRACT AND GRANT ADMINISTRATION

- "He gives me the tools and support I need to do my job, presents pathways to growth and advancement and is very knowledgeable and helpful."
- "Thoughtful and caring leader who works hard for and clearly values staff."
- "Exceptionally positive and proactive colleague."
- "A wonderful Manager, he accommodates staff to ensure that we have a work life balance and are always helpful."
STELLA SUNG
CONTRACT AND GRANT ADMINISTRATION

• “She seems to genuinely care about each person in a personal and professional capacity.”

• “I wanted to acknowledge the hard work that Stella Sung, OCGA, does in juggling the multiple department relationships that are inherent to working as a central office with the Health Sciences.”

• “Stella Sung is an amazing supervisor. She’s spread thin and still give as much as she can to each team member.”

CHARLES LU
OFFICE OF ACADEMIC SUPPORT/INSTRUCTIONAL SERVICES

• “Charles Lu has made such a positive impact in our department in just one year.”

• “He is so incredibly supportive and just an all around great leader. Thank you Charles!”

ANGELICA MANGINDIN
DEAN’S OFFICE - MEDICAL SCHOOL

• “Angelica Mangindin is always very supportive and willing to lend an open ear.”

• “Constantly challenges staff to think about why we do things and whether we need to continue to do things the same way.”

• “Angelica is the epitome of the perfect manager.”
JESSICA KUHRT
ELECTRICAL/COMPUTER ENGINEERING

• "She creates an enthusiastic culture and all have an open-door policy."
• "Helps to create an environment where everyone is treated equally."
• "She leads by example."

ALEXIA CERVANTES
CAMPUS RECREATION

• "She has been an amazing mentor to me since I became a career employee."
• "She is always seeking win win solutions and is willing to go a step beyond to accomplish things."
• "Goes above and beyond her job descriptions and puts aside her own personal beliefs to provide a completely inclusive and tolerant environment."

AMIR SCHANGALI
MEDICINE

• "Amir Schangali has made strides in increasing the diversity of senior leadership in the Department."
• "He does a great job recognizing different people’s issues."
• "He leads by example, consistently demonstrating inclusion for all employees alike while setting the standard for a commitment to excellence."
• "He acts with integrity, serve as a terrific mentor, and have done an exemplary job at creating an environment that values our most important resource, people."
KIM AYOUB
HUMAN RESOURCES

• “My supervisor, Kim Ayoub, has been extremely supportive of my professional & personal development throughout my career at UC San Diego. She always goes above and beyond in terms of finding creative ways to demonstrate and recognize her appreciation for her team. She is an exemplary leader and she merits abundant recognition for her continued efforts to bolster her staff and enable them to have a sustainable work/life balance. I am utterly grateful to have her as my supervisor.”

• “She is a supportive, knowledgeable, motivated, and understanding boss. I always feel heard and respected by her, and she offers great guidance on how we can improve individually, and also as a team toward a common goal.”

• “Kim Ayoub is a phenomenal Director and leader. She gives us the freedom to be innovative and manage our workload on an individual basis. Kim absolutely promotes a work-life balance and I feel extremely supported in that way. I am honored to be under her leadership.”

JILLIAN MCCARTHY
CANCER CENTER

• “Project Manager at Moores Cancer Center, always goes above and beyond her assigned duties to make sure that our team is prepared and ready to do our duties as assigned.”

• “She answers any and all questions we have and remains an extremely friendly but efficient leader. She even takes on questions and tasks that are from the other cancer teams and treats them as if they were her own - using her own free time to help others!”

• “She is outstanding and makes me enjoy coming to work every day.”

• “She is so thoughtful in her responses and never lets you feel that you’re wasting her time, even though she is running an incredibly busy team.”

• “She is wonderful to our entire department constantly giving praise where it is due. She makes everyone feel respected and valued and is always there for support when it is needed.”
KEVIN CHOU
ITS - BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

• “Kevin’s approach of increasing transparency and communication builds an environment of trust and a positive environment to work in.”

• “He has a TON on his plate but I’ve always found him to be very responsive to my needs and very accommodating in explaining things to me.”

• “He's really a joy to work with.”

STEVE JACKSON
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

• “I believe that Director Steve Jackson makes a real effort to create unity and team spirit in our department and to make each individual feel valued and respected.”

• “Steve Jackson is in touch with the people in his area that he is responsible for. This is evidenced by the extraordinary amount of time he devotes in an effort to know and understand them and the work they do.”

• “He is approachable and creates an atmosphere of inclusion and feeling appreciated.”

DULCE DORADO
VC SA INTERNATIONAL CENTER

• “Dulce Dorado is to be celebrated for being such an incredible support to all of her staff! She provides time and mentoring to all staff, beyond her job duties, and is very considerate of each persons professional and personal plans.”

• “She is a well-poised, thoughtful, kind and charismatic in her leadership. Seeing the way she leads makes me want to be a better worker at UC San Diego and has made me think about the way I want to lead in my own capacity. She's truly has welcomed all and is a demonstration of what it means to be a thoughtful, considerate and innovative leader.”
• “Brenda Moreno keeps the team together so we have the resources that we need and to resolve personnel issues so we can learn, grow, and empower each other.”

• “Brenda Moreno is the best boss that I have ever had, she is very understanding and makes you feel valued and appreciated!”

• “Brenda Moreno is the epitome of what a good supervisor is. She is not only supportive and encouraging of me in my current position, but also in my personal life outside of work.”

• “She is a fantastic advocate for her employees and is always happy to help where she can. If she weren't my supervisor, I likely would have moved on to another position a long time ago, but she is a sincere joy to work with.”

• “She is the best manager I have ever had.”

• “Brenda Moreno has been a pleasure to work with because she stays above the negativity, approaches many situations with humor, and has been willing to offer advice and guidance when I have sought it.”
REINA JUAREZ
STUDENT AFFAIRS-COUNSELING/PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

- “Dr. Reina Juarez, my director, works extremely hard to meet the needs of our staff, managers, and upper administrators.”

- “Dr. Reina Juarez is great at providing support and encouragement when staff have individual needs.”

- “Even after her many years at UCSD CAPS, Reina has never lost sight of being student-centered, while somehow balancing advocacy for CAPS, staff, and growth. She models our mission - both campus and CAPS.”

- “Our Director at CAPS, Reina Juarez, is always supportive of family and personal issues. She creates a safe environment in which we can come to her if these concerns are impacting our work. She responds with flexibility and compassion. She acts with integrity, serves as a terrific mentor, and has done an exemplary job at creating an environment that values our most important resource, people.”

LINDA COLLINS
CONTRACT & GRANT ADMINISTRATION

- “Linda Collins is an exceptional leader who has improved the workplace culture and environment of OCGA in so many ways, including recognition of employees for their contributions, introducing needed systems and tools, and creating a culture of collaboration among our large staff. Thank you Linda!”

- “She is a phenomenal leader who I love working with and who has offered me mentorship that I cherish.”

- “Thoughtful and caring leader who works hard for and clearly values staff.”

- “Linda Collins has done an excellent job over the past year at helping to create a positive and engaging work environment. She always manages to support the staff and others within the department.”

- “She is also a strong advocate for resources, and is always willing to help others no matter the issue and no matter how busy she might be.”