

2016 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Classified Service: Heather O'Hara

The Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Classified Service provides recognition for superior performance and extraordinary achievement. Heather O'Hara fits this award perfectly.

One of Heather's greatest assets is her deep understanding of HR policies and procedures. Along with assisting in processing the numerous personnel transactions HR receives on a daily basis, Heather oversees the TN Visa process, and she also manages the Volunteer, Drescher, and Sabbatical Leave programs. Heather works with a great number of faculty throughout the recruiting process. She drafts, coordinates, posts, and pays all employment advertising and as a result of her diligence, has saved the college a significant sum of money.

Heather has volunteered for and is involved with a number of campus events and committees. She has volunteered for commencement, the Very Special Arts Festival, is a member of the Bias Response Team and the Employee Awards Committee.

In 2013, Heather received the President's Award for Excellence in Clerical Service for work she has done, and continues to do, with assisting in developing, updating, coordinating, and administering the campus-wide Computer Campus Account program.

Heather engages with countless individuals every day and it is often said that she has a friendly demeanor, engaging personality, and is constantly willing to go above and beyond for anyone emailing, calling, or visiting Human Resources in need of assistance. One potential candidate in particular wrote, "You have been amazingly proactive and I hope there is a Heather O'Hara wherever I end up".

In recognition of her service and dedication to SUNY Potsdam, The State University of New York presents Heather O'Hara the 2016 Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Classified Service.