

May 3, 2019

University Senate:

It is with humble honor that I accept this nomination by Louisiana Tech University Senate and University Faculty and Staff as a candidate for the 2019 Student Outreach Award.

I began working in the College of Education at Louisiana Tech University in September, 1997. Prior to my employment at Louisiana Tech University, I worked at Ruston State School for 16 years. I have to admit, I was really nervous about leaving a place of employment after that many years and starting over at a new place. However, when I walked on the Louisiana Tech campus, the faculty, staff, and students were very welcoming and made me feel right at home. I guess that is one of the main reasons I have stayed here for almost 22 years.

I have tried to live by what my mother told me years ago – to treat others as you want to be treated. That is why I have always tried to do what I could to help people and assist them in whatever way I could. My current job consists of assisting students with their schedules, transfer credits, making sure they meet all graduation requirements, and making sure their transition to college life goes as smoothly as possible. My door is always open to students that need help which might be anything from locking their keys in their car to trying to find a class that will work with their schedule. Of course, I always keep a box of Kleenex for those students that come to my office to talk to me about their problems. After we discuss their options, they leave relieved and appreciative that I took the time to talk to them. I encourage every student that walks in my office. That is what I do – problem solve. I also work closely with the faculty and staff in the College of Education assisting them with student advising and transfer credits as well as coordinating the summer orientation process. They are a wonderful group of people, and I feel we work very well together; it is truly a team effort throughout the college.

I love Louisiana Tech University – the administration, faculty/staff, and students. We are Tech Strong. I truly consider it a privilege to be a part of the Louisiana Tech University family.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tammy Nelson Johnston". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Tammy Nelson Johnston



LOUISIANA TECH
UNIVERSITY.

College of Education
Office of the Dean

May 1, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to recommend Ms. Tammy Nelson Johnston for the Student Outreach Award. She loves her job, is always upbeat, and provides excellent services to our undergraduate students. Ms. Tammy started her Civil Service career in 1981 at the Ruston State School. She became a member of the Tech Family in Fall 1997. Having worked with her since 1997, I can say with certainty, that she goes above and beyond standard responsibilities to deliver quality service to students. In fact, many, if not most, have come to her for support and guidance while in the program and stay in contact with her after graduation. In addition, our faculty and staff respect and admire her dedication to the college. I cannot think of another person who is more deserving of this award.

Sincerely,

Dawn Basinger, Ed.D.
Associate Dean
Interim Curr., Instr., & Leadership Dept. Chair

To whom it may concern,

My name is Aerial Nicole Stanford and I am a junior here at Louisiana Tech University. It is my sincerest pleasure to write this letter of support for Mrs. Nelson. When I heard that Mrs. Nelson was nominated for the 2019 University Senate Student Outreach Award I was immediately overjoyed because I cannot think of anyone who could be more deserving. I met Mrs. Nelson three days before my freshman year began when I was given a student worker position in the Deans office. Mrs. Nelson immediately welcomed me in and gave me guidance on how to thrive in this new position. At that moment, I had no idea how large of an impact Mrs. Nelson would have on my life. Throughout my time here at Louisiana Tech, I have encountered frustrating trials and obstacles, but Mrs. Nelson was always one office visit away. I would go into Mrs. Nelsons office feeling like my life was in shambles, and I would leave feeling like I had the whole world figured out. I know that I am only one of thousands of students who have been restored through Mrs. Nelsons gentle guidance and constant care. I frequently hear students referring one another to go see Mrs. Nelson because she has proven herself to be for the students. She serves without ceasing, prioritizes every single student, and does so with every fiber of her being. Mrs. Nelson is everything that Louisiana Tech strives to be. She exudes confidence in her abilities to effectively and efficiently map out every student's academic journey. She exhibits excellence by requiring students to set high goals and high standards, both of which she helps us uphold and obtain. She displays her steadfast commitment to both Louisiana Tech and the College of Education by consistently going above and beyond to meet the needs of the students, faculty and administration. Mrs. Nelson taps into her knowledge to share wisdom, encouragement and much needed advice to the countless number of students who constantly seek her out. The integrity of her heart and the integrity of her intent speak volumes about her genuine character. She gives every single student an immense amount of respect that we don't always deserve, but in return she is one of the most respected faculty members in the eyes of the students. She leads without reluctance and remains loyal to all of her students – she never lets us down and always has our backs. She faces life, adversity, and trials with enthusiasm, always finding the silver lining and inspiring students to do the same. Her optimism fills our hearts with joy, and our souls with hope and she takes pride in this University and in the College of Education. Above all, Mrs. Nelson is caring. She places herself in the shoes of each and every student she encounters and does absolutely everything in her power to find solutions to seemingly impossible situations. She makes every student feel valued, understood and heard. Mrs. Nelson embodies every single one of Louisiana Techs twelve tenets and more. She invests in this University and she invests in its students without needing or wanted recognition, but I know that she deserves it. Thank you for your consideration of Mrs. Nelson.

Sincerely,

Aerial Nicole Stanford



LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES

PH.D. - COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY • PH.D. - INDUSTRIAL/ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY
M.A. - COUNSELING & GUIDANCE • M.A. - INDUSTRIAL/ORGANIZATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY • B.A. - PSYCHOLOGY

To it may concern:

In the over forty years that I have been at Louisiana Tech, I can think of no more exceptional staff worker than Tammy Nelson Johnson. She is a big part of the heart of the College and a major contributor to the College's effective functioning.

Tammy's support has always been critically important in the effective advising of students. We all count on Tammy's record keeping and knowledge of University policy and procedures. She goes above and beyond solving problems and supporting faculty and students. There are numerous students who would have dropped out or failed to graduate in a timely fashion without "Ms. Tammy's" support, encouragement and assistance. She has made a huge contribution to the College's retention efforts. When new faculty are learning to advise she patiently and with good humor tutors them in the process and answers their questions. She prevents many registration issues with her accessibility and expertise.

Tammy shows initiative and is always part of the solution- solving problems and performing tasks in a seamless appropriate manner. She is resourceful and insightful deciphering what needs to be done and doing it without needing supervision. She is a meticulous record keeper. Grades are recorded, graduates listed and communicated to departments, folders made as students change majors or curricula. When advising I know I can count on the information in the folder to be up to date accurate with ACT scores grades and all necessary information. Often Tammy works through lunch answering the phone, and completing records. She uses her time effectively. One hand she is efficient, and on the other she is gracious about work related interruptions.

Tammy promotes the Colleges positive image to students and the community. The orientation sessions for prospective students run efficiently, reflecting careful advance preparation of records available section sending reminders to faculty arranging the room and having computers uploaded to appropriate screens. Every contingency has been anticipated and prepared for. She communicates effectively with prospective students and alumni who call her requesting assistance in recruiting graduates. She is supportive of students who are in distress or confused about academic issues. She refers them to appropriate university resources and

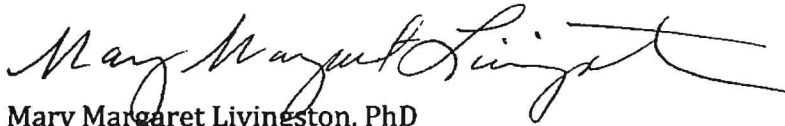
A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

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provides reassurance and follow-up. If an agitated parent calls, she handles those parents masterfully, smoothing the situation while taking care to guard their student's FERPA rights. I know that any request for assistance made by me, a fellow faculty member, student, alumni, or community member will be responded to immediately, appropriately, accurately and with good grace.

We are fortunate to have Tammy as a staff member. Tammy makes a major positive difference in the College's functioning and in all of our lives. Thank you for the opportunity to express my appreciation of Tammy and all she does.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mary Margaret Livingston". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mary Margaret Livingston, PhD

Professor

Coordinator Undergraduate Psychology

Director Human Services Concentration , MA Counseling and Guidance

Roger Thomas Luffey Endowed Professor