



LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

Admissions & Recruitment

Dear University Senate Members,

Loyalty has always been one of the Tenets that I identified most with. I think it is the foundation in any aspect of one's life whether it be personal or professionally. To be nominated for this award is one of the greatest compliments I could have received. I am humbled in knowing that my commitment to the university I love so much was worth noting to whomever felt I was deserving of this honor.

From the time I was born my life has revolved around education. In fact, my first stop home from the hospital was at the school in which my mom taught. When your mother is a teacher, the majority of your childhood is spent on a school campus. My days began two hours before my friends arrived and ended several hours after the final bell. My mom, a Louisiana Tech alumni and educator of 40 plus years, is a true testament of someone who chose the right profession. Her passion for teaching is rare, but the difference she makes in young people's lives is unparalleled. Despite not wanting to take the teaching route like my mom, I passionately crave the opportunity to make even the slightest difference in someone's life.

I began my professional career in banking where I was told by a lady in the human resources department that my personality was better suited elsewhere. Although that served as quite a shock initially to my young professional life—she was right.

Historically across college campuses an admissions recruiter is someone with somewhat of a cowboy soul. They breeze into town for a brief moment and typically leave out as quickly as they came. When accepting a recruiting position almost 9 years ago that was going to be me. My plan was to do a job and do it well, but simply use Louisiana Tech as a stepping stone to something bigger and better after a couple years. After each recruiting season, however, I remained committed to goal of welcoming more future Bulldogs.

Recruiting has always come naturally to me. Being able to have a conversation with potential Bulldogs and their families is where I thrive. The lady from Human Resources was right on the money—my personality was better suited outside of a cubicle. I was meant to have interaction, conversation, and the ability to entertain others. Being in the Louisiana Tech office of Admissions, I am able to be myself and interact with people from all entities of campus. From Mrs. Sheila in custodial services, Mr. Frank and the grounds crew, catering, Dr. Guice and more I am put in a position to make everyone feel like a someone. My roles have transitioned over the years from admissions recruiter, to senior recruiter and special events coordinator, to the first ever CAMPUS EXPERIENCE COORDINATOR. The reoccurring theme that lies within all the positions I have held at Louisiana Tech and amongst the one I currently have is the ability to make a difference.

“Helping one person might not change the world, but it could change the world for one person.” Over the years I have gotten countless “thank yous” in the form of notes, flowers, cupcakes, and other unique items from families. They always are received in surprise, because in my mind I am just doing what I was meant to do—help people. I have learned through this job that sometimes what I view as such a small interaction with a student makes one of the largest impacts.



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As the Campus Experience Coordinator, I interpret my role as being the person in charge of making Louisiana Tech the second most magical place on earth—Disney beware. My whole day consists of people. However, it's not just the potential bulldogs that I interact with on their campus visits or on the phone that I get to share Tech with that resonates with me the most. It is having the opportunity to serve as the advisor for the Student Recruiters, Order of Omega, and over the front admission student workers that matters immensely to me. I am also proud to serve as the only female faculty advisor for a fraternity, Kappa Sigma.

I compare my daily experiences with the students of Louisiana Tech with one of my favorite scenes from the movie, *The Blind Side*. If you are unfamiliar with the movie, an affluent family took in a homeless minority student that would later become an outstanding athlete. At a fancy country club luncheon, Leigh Anne Touhy, who was portrayed by Sandra Bullock, has a friend tell her “You’re changing that boy’s life.” It is then that Sandra Bullock’s character quickly responds with “No, he is changing mine.”

These students reference to me as their fearless leader. They look to me for the answers to all of their problems. They confide in me. They truly believe I have it all figured it—which couldn’t be further from the truth. What these students don’t realize is they really have changed my life. They are the reason my loyalty has never wavered. They make me want to be a better person, leader, and friend. My mom planted the seed early in me to want to be the example a child might not have at home. I hope the precedent that I set for these students is one that makes them better—better humans, better friends, and better employees.

Since the fall of 2008, Louisiana Tech has been home for me. In my adult life it has not only been a home but also filled a void. Time, I imagined at this point would be spent at ballparks and dance classes, has been poured back into serving the university that has molded me into the young professional I am today.

As expressed earlier, I am extremely honored to have been selected as a potential recipient of the 2023 Loyalty Award. To the person who nominated me, I am forever grateful and to Louisiana Tech University, I will forever **LOYAL** be.

Emily M. Poole

Campus Experience Coordinator



LOUISIANA TECH
UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

Dean of Student Services and Academic Support

May 12, 2023

Selection Committee,

I have had the opportunity to write on behalf of many of my colleagues for the Loyalty Award and all I have had the opportunity to recommend, have been immensely deserving. However, I believe I have not been more honored to write a recommendation for another colleague as I am to write in recommendation of Ms. Emily Poole for the Loyalty Award. Ms. Poole's strong work ethic, which is evident to all who know her, as well as, her passion for growing student leadership and promoting our University through her service, makes her a great choice for this award.

I have the pleasure of watching Ms. Poole in not only her role as Campus Experience Coordinator, but also in the many other volunteer responsibilities on this campus. Like many who make the culture of Louisiana Tech special, Ms. Poole often sees a need on this campus and offers to fill that through service, not through a job description. Each and every time I see Ms. Poole extend her "job description," it is to better serve the students and the University. I often observe Ms. Poole going out of her way to assist students in their leadership journey, professional pursuits, or organization responsibilities; such as Greek Life. Her ability to make students feel comfortable, meet them where they are, and guide them to their goals, is commendable. Ms. Poole's professionalism and innovation to create welcoming experiences are certainly a part of her role and scope, but to the extent to which she performs those endeavors is a direct reflection of her love and loyalty to this University, OUR University.

Ms. Poole has, on many occasion, jumped in willingly to help cover a need on this campus. Her tireless pursuit to cast Louisiana Tech in a positive light, not only for prospective students but for current students and alumni, make her an incredible asset.

Ms. Poole is most certainly a wonderful representative of our University and this award. Again, it is a great honor to recommend Ms. Emily Poole for this award and I recommend her without reservation. Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can further assist this process (stacyc@latech.edu/318.257.2445).

Sincerely,

Stacy C. Gilbert
Dean of Student Services and Academic Support

A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

MEMORANDUM

TO: Whom It May Concern
FROM: Trée George
DATE: 12 May 2023
SUBJECT: Emily Poole—Loyalty Award

I have had the pleasure of working with Emily over that last six years and it is my sincere privilege to recommend her for University Senate Loyalty Award.

I have watched her go out of her way, time and time again, to accommodate campus tour visitors and to make their campus visit experience extraordinary. Her leadership of the Student Recruiters is outstanding and her attitude and love of Louisiana Tech shows through in every interaction I've witnessed her have with parents, students, staff, and administrators. She often receives request for last minute events, and I have never seen her not fully embrace the opportunity to put Louisiana Tech first and in the brightest possible light.

A couple years ago, Emily inherited Literary Rally—a rather substantial event, and quite an extra burden to execute. She was only supposed to run the event for one year, but circumstances dictated she do it again this year. Her professionalism in organizing and running Rally has been amazing to watch and her dedication to take on such a large project to her already full agenda has been extraordinary.

Emily is the face of Tech at all of our major events including the parent's dinner at Orientation. Her love, energy and enthusiasm for Tech is clear and her commitment to spreading that enthusiasm can be seen every day as she greets our daily tour visitors in Hale Hall. I enthusiastically recommend Emily Poole for this year's Loyalty Award.

Sincerely,

Trée George
Director of Admissions



LOUISIANA TECH
UNIVERSITY

Department of Curriculum,
Instruction, and Leadership

Date: May 11, 2023

To: University Senate Awards Committee

From: Dr. Amy Vessel, Director of the Clinical Residency & Recruitment Center

RE: **Letter of Support for Emily Poole – 2023 Loyalty Award (unclassified) Nominee**

Since the day I met Emily Poole on campus, she has been a ray of sunshine in the Tech family. She may be from Arkansas, but she bleeds LOYAL BLUE! I would not even begin to speculate how many hours she dedicates to Louisiana Tech each week. Her job never seems to stop, but she loves every minute of it and it shows!

Emily is a joy to collaborate with on recruitment events, and her professionalism is exemplary. For many new students and parents who arrive on campus, she is one of the first faces they meet, and I could not be prouder to see her in that position in Admissions in our beloved Hale Hall. Additionally, I have had the pleasure of watching her engage with my own two sons, one a recent graduate and one a new freshman. My older son loved working with Emily as a recruiter at Time Out for Tech events, and my younger soon was so warmly greeted by name when he attended Legacy Day. She made both young men feel welcomed and valued on campus, and that meant everything to me as a mom.

Emily is efficient, dependable, engaging, and a real go-getter. When I connect with her via email, phone, or text, she always puts a smile on my face. Emily is also a key figure on campus that I know I can ask for help on anything, and I know she will follow through. She has been a very important team member for all teacher recruitment events and is ALWAYS filled with great ideas.

When I think of gems on this campus, Emily Poole is one of them! Her professionalism on campus represents Louisiana Tech as a leading learning community. Her smile is contagious, and having her as a role model to other recruiters/leaders affords the opportunity to have a cadre of excellence on our campus. I hope you will give Emily every consideration for the 2023 Loyalty Award - Unclassified! Do contact me at avessel@latech.edu or my cell 318-548-4953 if I can be of further assistance. I'm so honored to share why I believe she is so deserving and send my best wishes to the selection committee.