



LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Dear University Senate Awards Committee,

I am truly honored to be nominated for the Loyalty Award. Louisiana Tech University has been a big part of my life for the past 25 years. I started at Louisiana Tech in 1996 and worked for Dr. James Robert as his secretary in the College of Business we were all like a family then and still are to this day. My position was kind of a Jack of all trades working with Dr. Marc Chopin in the Graduate Office and helping Darrell Eddy with inventory and working with Michelle Allen in External Affairs. During my time at Louisiana Tech my daughter, grandson, granddaughter and nieces and nephews all graduated from here. In 2006 I left to work in the private sector but always thought about coming back to Tech. So, in 2015 it happened and here I am back home with my co-workers that are like my family. Some of my co-workers have retired and new people have taken their place but it is still like home.

One of my greatest experiences that I have here at Louisiana Tech is being part of the College of Business. I am the Administrative Coordinator in the College of Business with Dr. Gilley as the Department Head and I can truly say I love my job. We have over (500) students in this department and I enjoy every one of them. My faculty call me THE BOSS maybe because I try to keep them in line and believe me that is not easy just kidding. The students stop by all the time to ask questions or just to say hello and they always are so considerate and thankful. During the summer I get to meet a lot of my new students in orientation and socials that we have here in the College of Business. We all have a great time and look forward to the new school year in the fall. Thank you for considering me for this Loyalty Award it is a great honor.

Sincerely,

Sharon Freeman Hughes
Administrative Coordinator to Dr. Otis Gilley
College of Business Room 327
Louisiana Tech University

A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY UNIVERSITY



Graduate Studies and Research Programs
College of Business

April 29, 2024

Dear Members of the Selection Committee:

I am writing to highly recommend Sharon Hughes for the 2023-2024 Louisiana Tech Senate Loyalty Award. Sharon has been the administrative assistant to the Economics and Finance department in the College of Business for several years. Throughout her tenure she has shown exceptional dedication and loyalty to our College and to Louisiana Tech.

Sharon goes above and beyond the expectations of her role, consistently demonstrating a commitment to the success and well-being of both her departmental faculty and our students. She handles all tasks with efficiency and professionalism, and her knowledge and organizational skills have been invaluable to our department's operations. Whatever challenges we face as a department and as a College, Sharon has found creative ways to meet them. I personally have been on the receiving end of both her praise and congratulations, and her exasperated pursuit of whatever it was that I was supposed to do for her and...hadn't quite yet. It's challenging enough to herd the faculty cats in the Economics and Finance department, let alone having to also chase down both associate deans for the College for departmental needs!

Her dedication extends beyond her official responsibilities. Sharon is known for her willingness to lend a hand whenever needed, and her positive attitude contributes to – and some would say occasionally salvage - the collegial atmosphere of our department. She is well-respected by staff and students alike, and she is often the go-to person for advice and assistance.

Sharon's extraordinary loyalty and service to Louisiana Tech are deserving of recognition. I believe she is an excellent candidate for the Loyalty Award. I hope you will give her nomination serious consideration.

If I can be of any further assistance to you or to Sharon Hughes, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

William R. McCumber
Associate Dean of Graduate Programs and Research
JPJ Investments Endowed Professor of Finance



LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY[®]

DR. CHRISTOPHER L. MARTIN
DEAN
COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

April 28, 2024

Dear Members of the Awards Committee:

As Dean of the College of Business, I am writing to express my enthusiastic support for Sharon G. Hughes as a nominee for the Louisiana Tech University "Classified Employee Loyalty Award" in recognition of her extraordinary loyalty, dedication, and service to our students, faculty, staff, and the University.

As the administrative coordinator for the Department of Economics, Finance, and Business Administration, Sharon works with the largest number of students and faculty within the College of Business. While her workload is heavy, she tirelessly cares for everyone's needs and their calls for her assistance. In addition to her exceptional work performance, Sharon is known for her positive attitude, professionalism, and willingness to assist anyone who asks. As our most senior coordinator in the College, Sharon is seen as the "go to" person for training, problem solving, and general support for her coworkers. She fosters a collaborative and supportive environment within our college, making her someone whom both her fellow co-workers and faculty can always rely on.

To me, the greatest asset Sharon brings to Tech is her deep concern for the wellbeing of our students and with those she encounters as she carries out her daily responsibilities. Her dedication to our students is particularly commendable, as she always goes the extra mile to ensure they receive the support they require to excel academically and that each one leaves with a smile on their face.

Sharon's unwavering commitment to excellence, her caring attitude, and her tireless efforts have significantly contributed to the success of the College of Business and the smooth operation of her department. She embodies the values of loyalty and dedication in every aspect of her work that this award seeks to honor. She consistently demonstrates a strong work ethic, attention to detail and a willingness to support others, making her invaluable asset to our team and to Louisiana Tech University. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of this recognition, and I wholeheartedly endorse her nomination for the University Loyalty award.

Thank you for considering Sharon Hughes for this prestigious honor. Please feel free to contact me should you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Christopher L. Martin, Ph.D.
Dean, College of Business
Chase Professor of Management

A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM



April 29, 2024

Loyalty Award Selection Committee
University Senate
Louisiana Tech University
Ruston, LA 71272

Dear Selection Committee Members,

I am writing this letter to endorse Ms. Sharon Hughes for the Senate Loyalty Award. In my capacity as a faculty member, I have had the pleasure of working closely with Sharon. I can attest to her exceptional dedication and commitment to LA Tech.

During her 16 year tenure with us, Sharon has consistently demonstrated an unwavering loyalty to our institution and the Tenants of Tech. Her dedication to her work and students is reflected in her consistent performance, exemplary work ethic, and willingness to go above and beyond expectations in her public service role.

Sharon has worked tirelessly to ensure that our department office is run in an efficient manner. Whether through advising seasons, new hiring searches, managing budget shortfalls, or fixing the errant mistake that any of us faculty members make on a given day, she always maintains professionalism and embodies the spirit of a classified public servant. This level of dedication and loyalty not only benefits Louisiana Tech, but also sets a positive example for her colleagues and peers.

Another example of Sharon's commitment to our students is her work during the College of Business' orientation sessions. While these events are always relatively fluid, Sharon handles the added stress and uncertainty with a poise and grace that many aspire to. Her calmness has become a hallmark among her peers, and they frequently come to her when they are challenged with a situation and are uncertain how to proceed.

I wholeheartedly believe that Sharon Hughes is highly deserving of the Senate Loyalty Award. Her unwavering dedication, exceptional work ethic, and positive influence on our university makes her an outstanding candidate for this recognition. I strongly encourage you to choose her for this award.

Thank you for consideration and diligence on her behalf. Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

C. Patrick Scott, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Economics
Patricia Garland Endowed Professor
Center for Economic Research, Director
Louisiana Tech University
pscott@latech.edu