

Subject: Duke Excellence Team (Employee appreciation) update
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Date: Wed, 28 Feb 2007 15:32:00 -0500
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Hello all,

I want to thank each of you again for supporting the Duke Excellence Team.

Here's an update:

At the completion of our nomination campaign, 162 employees were nominated by approximately 200 students (255 total student nominations).

While we can only choose 7 to win the "bigger prizes" (2 dinners at Washington Duke each, Duke Watch, Acrylic and Rosewood trophy, Duke performances tickets), we are excited that this many employees will be made more aware of the appreciation students have for their efforts (and of course they'll receive a Duke Excellence t-shirt with their name on it, a personalized thank you/invitation to a lunch banquet).

Many of the nominations are both eloquent and touching. (I've chosen two randomly and pasted them below) We are hoping to work with the university to put these on some sort of website to make everyone aware of the many friendships between students and employees (which will hopefully inspire more).

You will, of course, all be invited to our banquet the week of March 26th, where all 162 employees will, hopefully, be in attendance.

We will be handing out individualized invitations (each will include what the student said about the employee in the nomination) to all the employees in the coming week.

I'll leave you with a question: Most of the nominations only include the employee's first name and a place where they work (ie Wallace from the Market place). We're making a t-shirt with all the names and we need them to be correct and full. Right now I'm talking with Corporate Payroll about accessing their lists. Is this the best way to go about this?

thank you for your time,

Daniel Bowes
Duke-Durham Community Liaison

Dave Fowler, Duke barbershop

He cut my grandfather's hair, he cuts my father's hair, and now cuts mine. The guy has been at Duke for 40 or so years, and still loves it. He loves getting to know people and if you really listen to him, he has a lot of wisdom to share. I remember one day I came in fuming about something someone had written in the Chronicle. I told Dave about it, and he just said, "well, Nathan, my mother raised me to believe that anger hurts you more than it hurts the person it's directed at, and judging from how you walked in here, it seems she might be right."

Iris Googe, housekeeper

I have lived in Bassett for the past three years, the last two of which have been as an RA. As a freshman, Iris was there as a friendly face and always smiling and saying hello as I headed out the door. Now as an RA, Iris is there as well, but also checking in with me to see how my residents are doing and keeping me informed of any housing issues that I need to address with them. She has much more developed RA abilities than I do; being able to be a friend, but also work with someone on a professional level. I have learned a lot from her in that respect. Many students and even friends pass you on campus with the casual "how's it going?", only to keep walking. The question is genuine when coming from her and always leads to a conversation --- no matter how busy she is, or how busy I think I am as I head out the door for class.

As the housekeeper in the

Bassett dormitory, Iris has gone above and beyond to learn all of our names, give us advice if we're having bad days, or just flash her friendly smile. I especially want to nominate her because of the active role she takes in our lives. When my 11 year old brother put up a sheet selling Boy Scout Popcorn, Iris added her name to the list. Iris's contribution not only to our dorm life, but to our general well being, is what the Duke experience is all about. I cannot say enough about this wonderful and inspiring woman. If you need any other information, please let me know.