

# June 2024 Star Awards

## June 2024 Winner!



## Tiffany Northern, New Student Orientation & Transfer Resource Center

Tiffany has stepped into the unenviable task of taking on New Student Orientation with little lead time and significant change surrounding the office staff and changing leadership for Sac State's orientation process. A long-time member of the Academic Advising Center team and the Transfer Resource Center Coordinator, Tiffany has pivoted her energies and efforts to support one of the largest Orientation populations in recent years. She has taken on this position with positive energy, and a high level of integrity, passion, and grit. While learning the nuances on the job, she has been able to work tirelessly throughout the mornings and afternoons to provide a positive environment to a diverse group of future Hornets and then work evenings to improve processes, check in with student leaders, and provide guidance and support for the orientation

team throughout the summer months. Sacramento State (as well as our newest population of students) is lucky to have Tiffany as a member of the Hornet Family!

## June Nominees

### Jeanna Paulk, Student-Athlete Resource Center (SARC)

Jenna serves as the Student Athlete Admissions & Retention Coordinator and Football Academic Advisor for the Student-Athlete Resource Center. She helps to coordinate all incoming student-athletes' applications for the 21 NCAA governed sports and serves as one of the first individuals to connect with these future Hornets when they have questions on the application process. For any incoming transfer student-athlete prospects, she degree evaluates what classes transfer and if the student-athlete will meet the NCAA's Progress Towards Degree rules. Her level of detail is paramount. Jenna collaborates not only with the various academic colleges on-campus for these transfer evaluations but also in the Athletics Advisor Community - serving as a chair of the N4A association's Academic Programs & Practices. She represented Sac State in a positive light when she was recently selected to present to the entire association on Best Practices in Collaborating with your NCAA Compliance Offices for Transfer Evaluations. The number of Transfer Evaluations has increased dramatically with the NCAA's Transfer Portal opportunity. Jenna supports our Football student-athletes through Academic Advising, helping to coordinate Academic Mentoring and study halls, as well as guiding them through financial processes of the FAFSA or scholarships. She performs her work with integrity and provides services that help our student-athletes be successful and feel supported. Jenna does an incredible job and performs her role with an immense level of care. She is a true Hornet!

### Jessica Thompson, Academic Advising Center (AAC)

Jessica has consistently demonstrated an unparalleled commitment to students' academic and personal growth, making her an exceptional candidate for this recognition. One notable testament to Jessica's exemplary advising is the partnership/collaboration between the AAC, the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, and now the Black Honors College at Sac State. Over the last few months, Jessica has worked alongside all three centers to ensure students have the necessary academic, professional, and social skills.

As an Academic Advisor, Jessica has impacted the lives of numerous students through her dedicated mentorship and guidance. She goes beyond the traditional role of an advisor by taking a personal interest in each student's journey, providing invaluable support and encouragement at every step.

Her approachable demeanor and genuine care for students create a welcoming environment where students feel comfortable seeking advice and sharing their academic concerns. Not only does she assist with course selection and academic planning, but she also offers insightful career advice, instilling confidence in students about their academic and professional aspirations.

Jessica embodies the qualities of an outstanding academic advisor: dedication, empathy, and a genuine commitment to student success. Her contributions to the academic community have made a lasting impression on students and colleagues.