

# Office of HUMAN RESOURCES, TITLE IX & EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

Westfield State University

## Employee Recognition

October 28, 2024

Congratulations to the following faculty and staff who have been recognized by a member of our campus community for strengthening our institutional culture and modeling WSU values. (A photo only accompanies the recognized that shared approval).



**Regina Smialek**  
**English**



I am writing to nominate Regina Smialek, the Administrative Assistant for the English Department, for employee recognition. Regina makes a difference in the lives of so many of our students as she helps them navigate the beginning of the semester. As the coordinator of the Composition Program for the past year, I appreciate how instrumental she is in keeping the gears of the English Department moving by helping the students enrolled in the more than 30 sections of Composition running this semester.

We are so lucky to have Regina's immense enthusiasm and kindness greeting everyone who interacts with the English Department!



**Missy Cody**  
**Human Resources**



I'd like to reach out today with appreciation and recognition for our colleague Missy Cody, who has really made a difference for me over the last several months in my transition into retirement.

From the start, she was fully and well informed about all the technical aspects of the retirement transition and had an excellent way of communicating those details to me; she had important suggestions for me about tax-advantaged

opportunities, provided a smooth process for submitting related documents and pro-actively monitored that the paycheck would reflect our intent; provided a smooth and fluid process for fixing the situation when our intent was not what the paycheck system did with it; and overall communicating with clarity, care, and expertise!

There were many points where her care and concern really made the difference between implementing our plans (or failing to do so).

It's really made a big difference for me in my transition into retirement!

While I also expressed my gratitude to her personally I'm grateful for the opportunity to share my appreciation through with your office more broadly.



**Michael Twarkins**  
**Environmental Services**

I would like to nominate Mike Twarkins in Environmental Services. He is the second shift foreman for maintenance. He has been operating as first and second shift foreman in the absence of one of the foreman. He always leads by example- if you've ever needed maintenance help for something on campus there's a good chance Mike is the guy who made it happen for you. He is always taking on additional work to make sure the department and campus as a whole runs smoothly. And he does so with a smile and good attitude. Mike deserves to be recognized for everything he does, as he is constantly going above and beyond what his job entails because he cares about our community here and takes pride in his work. We are so lucky to have him.



**Michael O'Neill, Lynn Davis,& Kathie Stone**  
**Environmental Services**

I would like to recognize the staff at University Hall for going above and beyond to keep their building in tip top shape for all the conferences they have all summer long and during the school year. It takes special people to do what they do. So I would like to recognize them for all their hard work.