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## Virginia Tech Staff Employee of the Week

February 27, 2006

Name: Deborah A. Lawrence

Job Title: Special Events Coordinator

**Employee's Home Department:** University Development Employee's College or VP Area: VP for Development &

University Relations

Nominated For: 2005 President's Award for Excellence

Nominated By: Mary Grace Theodore, Regional Director of Major Gifts

Virginia Tech Hire Date: October 24, 1979



## Summary

As a Special Events Coordinator, Debbie strives to make each event unique to the group and situation. Her goal is to make every guest and honoree feel special and leave with a positive impression of Virginia Tech. She puts a human face on the university and connects with people personally - so that they don't feel like "just a number." According to Mary Grace Theodore, Regional Director of Major Gifts, "You want to work with her! She is truly a well-rounded individual, a constant role model." Recommenders described Debbie as a person of "integrity, honesty, and great attitude", "consummate professional", "dedicated employee", "a joy to be around", and a person with a "commitment to excellence." Brian James, UUSA Technical Services Director, states, "All people are treated with dignity and the ideals she holds true. I have seen her show the same respect to a student employee of mine as well as high-ranking university officials...UT Prosim exemplifies Debbie's approach to life..." According to Larry Hincker, Associate Vice President for University Relations, "Her work - the literal care and feeding of the university's major benefactors, families, students, and friends - represent the university with polish, sophistication, and aplomb."

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