

Staff Employee of the Week

Betsy Williams

JOB TITLE: Education and Outreach Program Coordinator

HOME DEPARTMENT: Virginia Bioinformatics Institute

COLLEGE OR VP AREA: Virginia Bioinformatics Institute

NOMINATED FOR: Staff Leadership Award

NOMINATED BY: Traci Roberts

VIRGINIA TECH HIRE DATE: September 10, 2006

SUMMARY

Betsy makes each person she encounters feel validated, whether it is an encouraging facial expression or a perfectly appropriate phrase of encouragement. She leads by example in that she remains humble even in the most anxious of times. She is recommended by her peers as a person of unquestionable dependability, and everyone willingly reciprocates when she is in need of additional help. She does not readily complain about random fluctuations in workload or spontaneous schedule changes. She simply rises to the occasion when necessary. Her efforts and determination have shown as she is continually trusted with not only a promotion, but also with newer projects of great detail. Her work has been invaluable in the Education & Outreach programs involving the REU Institute and Kids' Tech University support, allowing seamless delivery based on her attention to detail in the preliminary supporting stages. Also notable is the students' reception of Betsy. This is absolutely important in that she must build a relationship of trust with these students, and maintain it for the length of the programs. Her ability to give them a sense of direction and serve as a resource to them allowed the visiting students to focus successfully on their programs, thereby delivering positive results both for VBI and Virginia Tech, as this may be the one and only impression they will remember.