

## *Staff Employee of the Week*

### **Lori Berry**

Lori Berry, executive secretary senior for the Office of Educational Research and Outreach (OERO) in the School of Education is known by her colleagues for her limitless amount of expertise. In her role, she is responsible for an expansive amount of tasks including the orchestration of the grant proposal submission process, advising faculty on grant-related personnel issues and procedures, and supporting the hiring process' for all research project personnel. "Since the Office of Educational Research and Outreach's inception as a unit, the research portfolio for the School of Education has grown to over \$15 million dollars," said Barbara Lockee, professor and associate director for the School of Education. "I am certain that one of the key factors to this growth has been the outstanding service that Lori has provided to our faculty and research project personnel over the years." Lori is considered by her colleagues to be the go-to employee for any questions concerning university policy, proposal requests, and even general advice. In 2013, she further demonstrated her talent and reliability when a staff member encountered severe health concerns. For six consecutive months, Lori took on several extra responsibilities, working nights and weekend to fulfill the needs for her office. "Lori is an integral member of the Virginia Tech community because of her dedication to excellence. The top-notch service she continues to provide to our department, and the entire university community are invaluable."

