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Virginia Tech Staff Employee of the Week

April 24, 2006

Name: Arron Hudson
Job Title: Shelving Supervisor
Employee's Home Department: University Libraries
Employee's College or VP Area: University Library
Nominated For: President's Award for Excellence
Nominated By: Ross C. Edmonds
Virginia Tech Hire Date: April 9, 2001



Summary

Arron Hudson, as the supervisor of the largest group of student employees for the University Libraries, has the monumental task of making certain that all their paperwork is kept updated and filed with the proper people. He has shown great skill and flexibility in this supervision of the over 50 part-time student wage employees. Arron has created new ways to handle scheduling allowing for more flexibility and more students working during breaks helping reduce backlogs.

Comments from faculty, staff, and administrators

"The unit operates under various schedules depending on the time of the year. Arron is always willing to be flexible with his schedule to accommodate different operating hours of the library, requests for special projects and to cover for coworkers for vacation or illness. Arron volunteered to work all of the upcoming winter breaks to accommodate coworkers who had planned family activities. The Shelving Unit receives lots of requests for side projects such as helping prepare for renovations. Arron is always willing to help out with whatever projects fall our way. Arron is also one of the most dependable people I have ever worked with."

"The Shelving Unit has the unspectacular but critical task of placing over 300,000 new or returned items annually in their rightful place so that future users can find them. The greatest part of this work is accomplished by students whose lists of priorities begin with many other considerations. The peak of returns at the end of each semester is, of course, marked by the near-disappearance of the labor pool. Routine shelving operations are interrupted constantly by critical tasks the library administration assigns or by the need to shift collections to accommodate uneven growth. To accomplish this work takes planning, discipline, organization, the ability to motive, communicate, and teach (few students really "get" call numbers without instruction and drill), and the ability to cross wide, hot deserts on a very dry diet of thanks."

"Mr. Hudson has worked in the Library for several years and has quickly become an essential member of the Shelving Unit. One aspect of Arron's position is hiring and training new student employees. His performance on keeping all positions filled this past year was exemplary. His handling of associated paperwork for hiring and promoting shelvers is performed in a superlative manner. I have heard it said that there is never any problem with shelving student paperwork, including payroll. The superior handling of student paperwork in the largest student hiring area has made life easier for everyone involved in processing work papers and student payroll."