

# BARTON DIFFERENCE 2019



**Barton graduating students were asked to name employees who made a difference in their lives.**

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## **Janet Balk**

*Academics Programs Coordinator,  
Fort Riley Campus*

“Mrs. Balk is a breath of fresh air. If you’re struggling with a subject, even one she doesn’t teach she will find a way to help you with it. She is always there to support anyone who needs help and she encourages you to try and

makes you believe in yourself.

*Nominated by Vera Gaer*



## **Kathy Boeger**

*Instructor & Coordinator of Business/  
Accounting, Barton County Campus*

“Mrs. B has always been there for her students. No matter what they are going through she is always understanding and is always able to help out. She has helped me get involved on campus through CSO and Spark and I love

being in these organizations. She is and always will be the best teacher to have by your side when you are struggling in a class or even with life situations. She has helped me be ready not just to transfer on to the next college but has helped me get ready for life after I graduate from college. I will always be willing to help her out in the future. She positively impacts everyone that has stepped through her classroom and office doors.”

*Nominated by Mikala Dietz*

“As my advisor, she helped me overcome a lot of issues in my personal life and helped convince me to stay in school and finish strong. She was a rock when I needed support and means the world to me.”

*Nominated by Elizabeth Lacey*

“She has always been there for me. She always puts you first and that’s something I’ll never forget. There is never a dull moment when you are around her. She is the best instructor anyone could have and I’m glad I had the opportunity to know her.”

*Nominated by Tinashe Muzenyi*



## **Charlotte Cates**

*Biology Instructor, Barton County Campus*

“She was very helpful to me. I struggled to learn vocabulary for the sciences especially the more complicated words. As an international student, this was very frustrating for me. However, she was always very understanding and helped me get through science. She was by far the best teacher I had at Barton.”

*Nominated by Kristofer Eggertsson*



## **Gil Cloud**

*Instructor, Fort Riley Campus*

“This person made me think deeper about my life choices and always drove me to be a better student. He was willing to help me no matter what kind of problem I had. He was always there to give me some advice. I always enjoyed his class and understood that when I had prob-

lems, he helped me find a way to do the work. He always went above and beyond.”

*Nominated by Louie Cabrera*

“I was lucky enough to take two of his classes. In both of them, he demonstrated what he wanted from his students and that was for them to think. We worked on critical thinking during each class period with the questions he wrote down. We discussed each student’s answer and did a Socratic seminar. He helped me to see that I am smart enough and well enough to make it in college. I enjoyed being in his class. He gave me advice about my job, my family and wanted the best for me and all of his students. He deserves this award for the passion he has for teaching and for the dedication he has for seeing every student he teaches succeed.”

*Nominated by Tiffany Dull-Huttis*

“Mr. Cloud went above and beyond to ensure that I succeeded in my studies as well as equipping me with the necessary tools to move forward in my program. There were several occasions that he helped me with including helping me figure out my next step and writing a recommendation for my involvement in Phi Theta Kappa. He truly believes in his students and loves what he does here at Barton. He is the type of professor that sets a student up for success and guides them as much as possible. We need more professors like him that can stand alongside students and help them without becoming a crutch, but also help them see their potential. That is why I feel that he is deserving of this award!”

*Nominated by Jennifer Re*



## **Kristan Connell**

*Academic Advisor, Barton County Campus*

“I couldn’t have asked for anything more in my advisor. She provided a level of expertise for my chosen degree path. She always provided the help I needed and answered my questions to the best of her ability and I really appreciate her for that. Never a dull moment around her!”

*Nominated by Tinashe Muzenyi*



## Mike Cox

*Instructor, Fort Riley Campus*

“Mr. Cox makes you fall in love with History. His classes are a beautiful experience.”

**Nominated by Vera Gaer**



## Charles Davis

*Instructor, Fort Riley Campus*

“Dr. Davis is tough but fair. He provides you with a step-by-step process in a grand overall picture that helps you become a better writer.”

**Nominated by Vera Gaer**



## Mary Doyle

*Academic Advisor, Barton County Campus*

“I am an online student that went in and talked to Mary about classes and getting things situated for what I needed to succeed. She helped me very much and always checked on me to make sure I had everything in order. I have never had someone like that as a counselor. I truly appreciate her as she helped me more than anyone has and made sure I had all the resources I needed! Very grateful.”

**Nominated by Sarah Bay**



## Alissa Duncan

*Instructor, Fort Riley Campus*

“Any time I needed help with an assignment she would go above and beyond to help me! I would talk to her about how much I wanted to be a teacher and she suggested extra classes for me to take! Any time I took her classes, she helped bring everything to life! She didn’t have us sit down the whole class. She had us stand up and engage in activities! She is an amazing teacher. I really hope when I teach little kids in the future, I’ll remember everything she taught me.”

**Nominated by Arkeyshianna Jones**



## Jessica Fullen

*Instructor, Fort Riley Campus*

“Mrs. Fullen made my experience at Barton incredible. She truly cares for her students!”

**Nominated by Alyssa Cook**



## Ken Henderson

*Head Athletic Trainer, Barton County Campus*

“He has a positive impact on me because he taught me a lot about athletic training and sports medicine.”

**Nominated by Katie Schlochtermeyer**



## Baudilio Hernandez

*Hispanic Engagement & Recruitment Office Director, Barton County Campus*

“Mr. Hernandez is constantly proactive, happy and ready to support. He advised me to fill out a bunch of documents for my next university, as well as taking my friend Thamires and me to visit them. Mr. Hernandez also supervises the Hispanic American Leadership Organization (HALO). This program supports and encourages Hispanic students to persist in higher education with life advice and academic knowledge. Also, I worked with him last year on the Central Kansas Upward Bound program and he patiently taught me how to succeed in school and life. I am very grateful that Barton has workers like Mr. Hernandez to support international students.”

**Nominated by Laine Carolina Conceicao**

“Mr. Hernandez drove my friend and me to Oklahoma to a campus tour of Mid-America Christian University. He also helped me with a big project. I interviewed him and he was so supportive throughout the project. He also leads an excellent program (HALO) that helps Latino students to pursue education and this initiative is good and helpful. I am grateful that Barton has Baudilio as an employee because there is literally no situation that he will not help a student with.”

**Nominated by Thimires Lima**



## Kenneth Kolembe

*Instructor, Fort Riley Campus*

“Mr. Kolembe helped me to see math from a different perspective and was always open to questions. A lot of my previous math instructors have just expected their students to ‘get it’ and did not take much time to teach the material in depth. However, that was not the case with Mr. Kolembe. He was very understanding and helpful. I had never received an A in a math course until taking his class. He is an AMAZING instructor and really cares about his students.”

**Nominated by Jessica Frasco**

“Mr. Kolembe is so passionate about what he teaches and he makes sure you understand it. He doesn’t give up on you and he encourages you to try again when you’re wrong.”

**Nominated by Vera Gaer**

“Professor Kolembe was a great instructor to my classmates and me. He always made sure that we were all on track and there was never a dull moment in his class.”

**Nominated by Karen Sanchez**



## Steve Lueth

*Director of Instrumental Activities,  
Barton County Campus*

“Steve gave me a reason to play in college. He is super chill and we get a lot done and he doesn’t yell at his students if they’re not getting the piece right. He’ll sit there and go over the rhythms as many times as he needs to in

order to help us out. He is so fun and outgoing and puts a smile on everyone’s face. It’s sad that he’s retiring after this year but I will never forget, the one, the only, Martin Steven Lueth!”

*Nominated by Alyxius Torres*



## Jennifer Prinz Shakespeare

*Instructor, Fort Riley Campus*

“Jennifer can take a complicated subject such as anatomy and present the subject matter in a way that students can identify with the subject and excel. I believe that Jennifer deserves to be honored for her commitment to education. She has a very demanding profession and excels in her abilities to educate students. Additionally, she is a full time advanced pediatric nurse practitioner.”

*Nominated by Donald Moser*



## Cathy Ruppe

*Custodian, Barton County Campus*

“Cathy always makes sure she greets us with a smile and wishes us luck on our tests. She’s always there to lend an ear if needed.”

*Nominated by Christy Green*



## James Turner

*Tutor, Fort Riley Campus*

“Mr. Turner is a great employee who should be recognized for his time, effort and patience he has with students seeking help in the tutoring center.”

*Nominated by Jan Cruz*

“Mr. Turner is the only reason I was able to finish my degree. I relied on him every single day in the tutoring center where he helped me with math. His positive attitude and willingness to support the students are inspiring. I wanted to give up so many times, but he pushed me and encouraged me to keep going.”

*Nominated by Vera Gaer*



## Jessica Vsetecka

*Transcript Analyst, Barton County Campus*

“She helped me stay on the road to graduation and not only helped me with my scheduling but was there for me when I needed someone to talk to. She’s encouraging and hardworking and nobody deserves this award more than she does.”

*Nominated by Kenzie Wolf*



## Dana Weber

*Medical Laboratory Technician Instructor,  
Barton County Campus*

“Dana makes online courses feel like you are in her actual classroom. If I’m ever in doubt, she always points me in a positive direction. She doesn’t want you leaving her course with questions. She answers every question and is always there to help. I don’t think I could

pass the Medical Laboratory Technician Program if it weren’t for Dana.”

*Nominated by Reeva Harrison*

“Dana is one of the best teachers I have ever had. She gives you advice when you need it and is understanding and caring towards her students.”

*Nominated by Logan Jansonius*

“From the moment I got in contact with Dana, she has always gone above and beyond for me. She is always pleasant to speak to and is someone that I can trust will follow through. I don’t know how I would have survived without her!”

*Nominated by Morgan Klitzke*

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