

# 2022 BARTON DIFFERENCE

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



## **Charlotte Cates**

*Biology Instructor, Barton County Campus*

I took biology with Ms. Cates in order to transfer credits over to a university. I did not realize when I signed up for the course what a big impact she would have on my life. When I originally enrolled, I was planning on pursuing a degree in nursing, but after Ms. Cates got to know me she asked me why I was pursuing that and not biology when I had a clear interest and passion for science. After talking with her about her experiences and discussing my passions and aspirations in life, I changed my major at the university I was attending in the fall to biology. She was absolutely right and I am thankful every day she pushed me to follow my dreams and not just a degree my parents wanted me to get.

- Nominated by Piper Stevens



## **Terry Anderson**

*Adjunct Faculty*

I absolutely hated all math and economics courses I had taken prior to meeting Mr. Anderson. He made sure that the material was relevant not only to the class, but also to students' lives and the careers they were aspiring to get into. I remember a time I shared some of my personal struggles during the pandemic with him and he gave me the best pep talk I have ever received. He affirmed my experiences and shared his own and helped me to know that I can succeed in life and achieve my goals even when things seem difficult. I will always be grateful to have met him.

- Nominated by Piper Stevens



## **Ann Ingala**

*Instructor, Fort Leavenworth Campus*

She was extremely kind, motivational and intelligent. She helped me to feel more confident in myself and especially when speaking with teachers. Prior to her class, I was always so scared to talk to instructors but she made me feel so comfortable and helped answer any questions or concerns I had. She boosted my confidence as a student and gave me skills that have helped me while pursuing my bachelor's degree.

- Nominated by Piper Stevens



## **Kenneth Kolembe**

*Instructor, Fort Riley Campus*

I had been treated my whole life like there was something wrong with me because I didn't understand math concepts. While taking Mr. Kolembe's math classes he really made sure that we understood. Without knowing it, he made me realize that I wasn't stupid in math. It was a life-changer for me because the field I want to go into has a lot of prerequisite math and science. He was awesome and I don't hesitate to recommend him to anyone I know that needs to take a math class.

- Nominated by Karissa Smith

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**Paulia Bailey**

*English Instructor, Barton County Campus*

I came here with no editing skills. I was behind in English. Mrs. Bailey took the time to personally assist me in class. I then asked her to help me get to a higher level of writing and she has pushed me. She is an amazing teacher who cares about her students.

- Nominated by Matthew Neumann



**LaToya Hill**

*Adjunct Faculty*

She successfully prepared me for my career as a pharmacy technician. Her courses were extremely informative and the assignments practical, helping me to become a successful pharmacy technician. She always answered my questions and helped coordinate my internship.

- Nominated by Adan Gutierrez



**Yuchen Wang-Boswell**

*Communications Instructor, Barton County Campus*

Went the extra mile to show that she was on my side and supported me throughout the class and after the class ended. She deserves recognition for her caring and passionate personality!

- Nominated by Brianna Russell



**Angie Maddy**

*Vice President of Student Services, Barton County Campus*

She is one of the best people I have ever met in my life. I have never met a more empowering, strong woman than her. She is so caring, she always has a positive attitude, and she cared for me as if I was her daughter. I have no words and will never have enough words to explain how much Mrs. Maddy means to me. She was and still is always willing to help me on whatever is needed. As an international student, I feel kind of lonely sometimes because I don't have a family here, but she made me feel so much better about my journey here. She is so dedicated to her job and to helping the students at Barton. If there is anyone who deserves this award, it is her. She is the most amazing person I have come across at Barton Community College and I thank God every day for giving me the opportunity to be blessed with Mrs. Maddy's presence. She is great at everything she does. She helped me to keep going and not give up on my education.

- Nominated by Carolina Beatrice D'Anniballe De Salles

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## **Melissa Stevens**

*Criminal Justice Instructor, Barton County Campus*

She shows genuine concern for her students and provides advice and criteria that pushes her students in the direction of their future goals and plans. She is the one teacher that has made a genuine impact on not only me as a student but also as an individual.

- Nominated by Nayeli Mendez

She makes you enjoy class and even just your everyday life. You can talk to her about anything and she genuinely cares. She always has the best stories to tell and the best advice to give. She makes you enjoy school and the things you learn about. She teaches in ways that make it that much more enjoyable and interesting.

- Nominated by Lexi Dryden



## **Sheyene Heller**

*Adjunct Faculty*

She made me feel like she actually cared and wanted to help me learn and do better. All of her feedback was very specific to my work. I have been enrolled in two other colleges besides Barton, and I was used to very generalized feedback. However, I didn't experience that here at Barton.

- Nominated by Katie Torkelson



## **Vern Fryberger**

*Communications Instructor, Barton County Campus*

Professor Fryberger is awesomely great. I knew absolutely nothing about music intelligence prior to taking Mr. Fryberger's class. Now I find myself dissecting almost every song that I hear. He was also very patient.

- Nominated by Temika Wilkes



## **Andrew Vanden Heuvel**

*Adjunct Faculty*

Professor Vanden Heuvel was one of the most (if not the most) understanding professors that I have ever had. The resources provided made learning interesting, and Professor Vanden Heuvel was always available if needed. Astronomy has always been an interest for me. However, after taking Professor Vanden Heuvel's class I'm far more enlightened.

- Nominated by Temika Wilkes

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**Melissa Hardwick**

*Adjunct Faculty*

She was such an amazing teacher. I took multiple classes from her. She was so informative and answered every question I had.

- Nominated by Renee Fowler



**Jeremy Deckard**

*Adjunct Faculty*

He was very helpful and made sure you understood the lecture he was teaching. I enjoyed taking his class!

- Nominated by Renee Fowler



**Kim Dondanville**

*Adjunct Faculty*

The only reason I decided to attend college was due to my loss of a career after 17 years because of a cavernous angioma I was diagnosed with. Somehow, laying in the hospital after brain surgery I had to take a positive stride towards something more for my family to prosper like we always were able to do before. I had Interpersonal Communication as one of my courses with Professor Dondanville. I was totally overwhelmed as English had always been a fear of mine... Once I was able to have my second week of her class, I realized her class was sincere and not totally driven by a book, but more by her experiences in dealing with interpersonal communications and family. Through the semester, I noticed my grades were between A and Bs. I couldn't believe I was actually doing English. I contacted her one day on one of my assignments and she was very polite and mindful that I was a student and not just a number. She made me feel comforted and a student that needed a push to see the big picture. I will always remember telling my family that if it wasn't for the grace of Professor Dondanville showing me that college was more than a goal to earn a degree and it doesn't matter my age or challenges, I might not have succeeded as I did at Barton... She never gave up on me as a person and never made me feel less worthy as a student. I graduated your college with highest honors at 3.8. I'm also enrolled now with CSU for my bachelor's degree in OSH/construction concentration. I'm thankful I had the greeting I did the first day or else that could have also been my last. Thank you to my professor and friend, Kim Dondanville.

- Nominated by John Wadsworth II



**Todd Moore**

*Assistant Director of Athletics & Sports Information Director, Barton County Campus*

I played for the Barton Women's Soccer Team and he always gave us a lot of information and helped us with many things.

- Nominated by Seulgi Lee

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**Kara Brauer**

*Nursing Instructor, Barton County Campus*

Mrs. Brauer is more than an instructor. She's even more than an advisor. There have been times that I was going through a lot outside of school and she was a listening ear. No judgement. She keeps us all in line but in a respectful manner. When our class may be starting to get off topic, she reels us back to the subject so that we get all that we can out of the time that we are there. When we are in clinical settings, she always tries to be there to help with anything and tries to have us get the most out of everything that we are doing without us feeling stupid. She is always so respectful. She is the definition of therapeutic communication.

- Nominated by Kimberly Sheets



**Cristi Gale**

*Information Technology Instructor & Coordinator, Barton County Campus*

She has been a part of my Barton experience from the very start and has consistently made herself available for all my questions as an instructor and an advisor. In my most recent class, Computer Science, she has gone above and beyond to assist me and guide me in learning this challenging subject. I believe she embodies the principles of an educator, and I have the highest respect for her.

- Nominated by Michael Holeman



**Danika Bielek**

*Dance Instructor, Barton County Campus*

Danika has had a positive impact on my life during my time at Barton by always pushing me harder to make me a better dancer. Even on the difficult days, she has never given up on me and has helped me make great strides toward my goals. I would not be where I am today without her guidance and support.

- Nominated by Sydney Mason



**Roni Wertz**

*Early Childhood Education Instructor & Coordinator, Barton County Campus*

Roni has been extremely supportive of my education at Barton as both my teacher and academic advisor. She does an outstanding job at facilitating a positive learning environment where students are engaged, learning and laughing. She has taken the time to truly know me as a student and support me on my journey. Her passion for early childhood education is inspiring to me and has made me excited to enter the workforce and continue my journey as an educator.

- Nominated by Kelly Hayden