

# 100-plus rise, applaud secretary's half-century at BC3

College honors 32, reveals Above and Beyond Award recipients

April 27, 2018



Butler County Community College recognized Natalie Kitzko, center, a secretary in BC3's records and registration department, for 50 years of service during a banquet Thursday, April 26, 2018. Also shown is Ruth Scott, retired director of records and registration, far left; and Amy Pignatore, director of records and registration.

(Butler, PA) Natalie Kitzko, a 1968 graduate of Butler County Community College, was honored for 50 years of employment at her alma mater – “52, if you count College Work Study,” she joked before an audience of 100-plus gave the 71-year-old a standing ovation Thursday night as BC3 celebrated the service anniversaries and recognized the retirements of staff members at a banquet in Founders Hall.

BC3 presented individual Above and Beyond Awards to Janice Reiter and to Kevin Smith, and the group Above and Beyond Award to Rebecca Smith and Suzanne Wasilewski. Nineteen employees were recognized for service anniversaries totaling 330 years of employment; six

retirees, for 166 years; and members of BC3's board of trustees, Education Foundation board of directors and Alumni Council, for a collective 40.

2018 marks the second consecutive year in which BC3 recognized an employee with 50 years of employment. David Huseman, a professor in humanities and social sciences, was honored in 2017 for a half-century of service to BC3. He, like Kitzko – a secretary in the records and registration department – continue to work for BC3.

Kitzko began as a part-time College Work Study student at BC3 in the summer of 1966, just after graduating from Butler Senior High School and shortly after enrolling in the college's two-year secretarial science program. She began her full-time employment as secretary to the assistant deans of humanities at BC3 following her graduation in BC3's first commencement exercises in June 1968.



Butler County Community College employees Kevin Smith, left, Janice Reiter, Suzanne Wasilewski and Rebecca Smith on Thursday, April 26, 2018, received the college's Above and Beyond Awards. The recognition reflects outstanding customer service, a willingness to assist others by going the extra mile, acts of kindness related to the job, outstanding work, new or innovative ideas or practices initiated at BC3 or diligence in helping someone or a group of people at BC3.

BC3's Above and Beyond Awards, said college President Dr. Nick Neupauer before announcing the recipients, are "symbolic of all of us here at BC3. We don't punch in and punch out. We don't look at clocks. We get the job done as a student-centered institution."

Reiter, event management secretary, received an Above and Beyond Award for exceptional service in accommodating faculty and staff, and external organizations, that seek to reserve BC3 facilities for their events. Kevin Smith, interim coordinator of fire and HAZMAT training programs, was recognized for enlisting sign language practitioners to coordinate fire training for a deaf and mute woman whose goal it was to become a member of the Cranberry Township Volunteer Fire Company.

BC3 lauded Rebecca Smith, assistant director of financial aid, and Wasilewski, admissions representative, for spending "countless hours becoming computer programmers," Neupauer said in reading from a nomination, to utilize integrated student management software and develop methods and messages to prospective and applied student databases.

Those honored for 10 years of service to BC3 were Jessica Cooper, Workforce Development secretary; Kiley Cribbs, coordinator of EMS and police training programs; Karen Fair, STEM secretary; Sally Lehnerd, custodial staff; Stephen Mayfield, assistant professor, STEM; Ann McCandless, dean of educational technology; Judy McGarrah, information center receptionist;

Bonnie Morrow, finance office assistant; Carla Schoentag, KEYS student facilitator and instructor; John Suesser, director of BC3 @ LindenPointe in Hermitage; and Dr. Amy Xin, associate professor, STEM.

Juli Louttit, Diane Ratti and Ed Stark Jr. were recognized for 20 years. Louttit is director of financial aid; Ratti, a professor in Nursing and Allied Health; and Stark, maintenance grounds coordinator.

Randy Lucas, custodian; and Mary McGinnis, transfer coordinator and academic counselor, were honored for 25 years at BC3; Matt Kovac, dean of STEM; and Stella Smith, associate director of financial aid, were recognized for 30 years.

Retirees in the past year, or those who have announced their retirements, include Kathy Sommers, director of information technology, 43 years; Dr. Steve Catt, director of event and grant management, 31; Linda Dodd, executive director of human resources and Equal Opportunity compliance officer, 31; Dr. Charlene Wright, professor, business, 31; Don Stewart, custodial staff, 15; and Lexie Jones, coordinator of tutoring, 15.

Glenn Miller was honored for 20 years as member of BC3's board of trustees; Mary Beth Rock, for 10 years with BC3's Alumni Council; and Jocelyn Howard Sinopoli, for 10 years with the BC3 Education Foundation Inc. board of directors.