



March 28, 2023

To the 2023 AP Contribution Award Committee,

LaRonda Zupp serves as the Access Center Coordinator on the Vancouver campus. She meets with students, staff, and faculty on a daily basis to contribute to an equitable campus community that is welcoming for students with disabilities. Over the course of the last year, her achievements and unmatched level of production make her uniquely deserved for this award this year.

For the past year, LaRonda Zupp has been passionately advocating for students with invisible disabilities. These are often students with ADHD, on the Autism spectrum, or have learning disorders that are not readily visible to others. This requires a greater understanding of disabilities and awareness for our campus community to understand the specific needs for students in these communities. LaRonda led a coalition of offices to organize a professional development and student speaker event led by Jonathan Chase. The event focused on how our campus can better serve our neurodiverse students and was an incredible success. Through LaRonda's work, we had 19 faculty attend the training and over 200 attendees at the presentation.

Additionally, to support our students with ADHD beyond what is required of our academic accommodations, LaRonda worked with our Counseling Services staff to arrange a time management workshop. The workshop covered organization skills, strategies for academic and personal success, and skills practice. Eleven students attended and it was incredibly well received by the student attendees. Academic advisors have been asking for more programming like this to support additional students and have seen a benefit for those that have attended.

Last, I want to say that although LaRonda meets with a full caseload of students, she has been tireless in her outreach and presentations to make sure all students are aware of how to access and receive their accommodations. LaRonda has done High School visits, trained TRiO staff, Orientation presentations, and we have seen an increase in the number of students enrolled with the Access Center as a direct result of her work.

I can think of no other staff member better qualified to receive this award this year and I appreciate the commitment that LaRonda has demonstrated to support WSU's goals for equity, diversity, and inclusion. Please contact me at eric.w.scott@wsu.edu if I can share any other information that will help you understand how LaRonda Zupp is the best qualified for this award, this year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eric Scott'.

Eric W. Scott, Director for Student Development, WSU Vancouver