

**2011 EXCELLENCE IN  
COLLEGE SERVICE  
AWARD NOMINATION  
FOR**

**MELINDA MILLER**

# Melinda Ann Miller

1001 Jersey Avenue  
Ogdensburg, NY 13669

Home: 315-393-9117  
Work: 315-386-7085

---

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

As a dedicated and versatile professional with fifteen years of experience in Counseling within Student Affairs, I continue on a path of career and professional growth. Such growth is achieved in the pursuit of managerial roles that develop and provide an atmosphere conducive to learning and developing a healthy lifestyle.

## EDUCATION

**St. Lawrence University**-Canton NY May 2005  
Certificate of Advanced Studies in Counseling and Development

**St. Lawrence University**-Canton NY May 1993  
Master of Education, Counseling and Human Development

**State University of New York at Potsdam**-Potsdam NY May 1991  
Bachelor of Arts, Majors: Sociology/Elementary Education N-6

## PROFESSIONAL LICENSING/CERTIFICATION

- Licensed Professional Mental Health Counselor, New York State Education Department, Office of the Professions
- Identification and Reporting Child Abuse and Maltreatment
- ABC Family Literacy North Country Adult Education Consortium/Certified to teach the GED

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Counseling Association (ACA)  
American College Counseling Association (ACCA)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**Director of Personal Counseling Services** August 2006-present  
SUNY Canton College of Technology, Canton NY

- Plan, develop and maintain a comprehensive campus counseling service to include psychotherapy, personal counseling, educational, and testing services; coordinates the efforts of the Counseling Center with other Student Affairs staff of the campus.
- Supervise professional staff, student workers, and interns of the Counseling Center.
- Provide psychotherapy and counseling to students, individually and in groups, to help them understand themselves and their environment to overcome academic, and personal problems.
- Develop and provide opportunities for group counseling and workshops in areas such as Substance abuse, women's concerns, human sexuality, adapting to stress, time management, etc.  
Administered a variety of psychological testing including Keirsey Temperament Sorter, Anger Expression Inventory, Alcohol Screening, Depression Screening, Anxiety Screening
- Provide crisis counseling and counseling services for patients with acute psychological problems covering 24-hour coverage to meet the emergency needs of students.
- Refer students for specialized and/or long-term treatment.
- Review and oversee the processing of non-academic aspects of student withdrawals

- Participate in the training of residential life and other staff and encourage faculty and administrative participation in the campus counseling program.
- Serve on division and college committees; prepare reports as indicated, requested or referred; participate in professionally related activities
- Establish long- and short-range departmental goals and objectives and devise methods to improve the overall effectiveness of counseling programs.

**Senior Counselor**

August 1998-August 2006

SUNY Canton College of Technology, Canton NY

- Provided individual and group counseling to students struggling with an array of difficulties
- Provided 24-hour crisis and mental health interventions
- Conducted MH assessments and referrals when needed to a diverse student population
- Provided internal or outside agencies referrals as deemed necessary for treatment
- Created close contacts with community agencies for proper service delivery
- Provided counseling for students referred by the Admission Advisory Board
- Conducted exit interviews and sign college withdrawal forms
- Created and provided classroom presentations, residence hall programming, and develop with joint collaboration programming with the Health Center and University Police that promotes living a healthy lifestyle
- Conducted Residence Directors and Assistants training sessions
- Provided mediation and conflict resolution
- Student advocate for College grievance procedures
- Created a campus Stress-Free Zone activities prior to finals
- Organizer of the National Depression Screening Day
- Provided administration of statistics for annual reports for the department
- Monitored clubs' and organizations' funds, including revenue deposit

**Coordinator of Substance Abuse Intervention**

October 1996-August 2006

SUNY Canton College of Technology, Canton NY

- Provided individual counseling to students with alcohol or substance abuse issues
- Provided assessments and referrals to treatment facilities when necessary
- Developed and delivered a wide spectrum of programs regarding alcohol and other drugs as well as violence issues
- Provided training for RA's, Greek organizations and Athletes
- Created the Bacchus and Gamma Peer Educators Club
- Recruited, trained and supervised Bacchus and Gamma Peer Educators
- Located and managed funding for educational programs
- Provided theme-based educational tables for the campus
- Implemented the Alcohol Online course for offenders of the Campus Alcohol Policy
- Guided and tracked 124 violators of the campus Behavioral Expectation Policy in 2005-2006
- Developed and teach the eight hour violation class for second offenders of the Alcohol Policy
- Conducted the campus-wide survey of student alcohol and drug use (CORE)
- Chair the Alcohol and Drug Steering Committee
- Grant writing experience- Received SUNY Grant for Alcohol & Other Drugs 5/06
- Wrote the new Alcohol Policy, approved by the College Council 5/06
- Created and implemented Alcohol Awareness Week

**Parent Enrichment Coordinator/Counselor**

October 94-October 96

BOCES, St. Lawrence/Lewis Counties-Adult and Continuing Education

- Screened and assessed clients, developed and implemented service plans, provided crisis intervention and referred to other community agencies
- Provided home visits, counseling, family activities, and parenting skills
- Facilitated adult education (GED, Grasp program) and pre-school education

**Mental Health Rehabilitation Counselor**

June 93-October 94

Seaway House, Catholic Charities, Ogdensburg NY

- Provided individual and group counseling to clients with a variety of mental health issues
- Formulated and implemented programs for approximately 140 clients
- Provided as a liaison with other private and government agencies

**PROFESSIONAL/TEACHING**

**Adjunct Instructor**, SUNY Canton

Fall 2010-present

- Developed and taught Drugs in Society SSCI 181

Fall 2000- Spring 2001

**Horizons Instructor**, Clarkson University

July 98- July 2003

- Taught personal development course for the Summer Horizon Program
- Provided relaxing environment for identification and appreciation of everyone's characteristics
- Emphasized the importance of setting goals and building self-esteem

**Pre-Kindergarten Teacher**, St. Mary's School, Canton

August 92-June 94

- Planned and executed learning objectives for two pre-school programs

**COLLEGE ADVISING**

- Advisor and Founder Bacchus and Gamma Peer Educators
- Co-Advisor Commuter Club
- Co-Advisor College Union Board
- Advisor to Lecture Chair College Union Board

**COMMITTEE SERVICE**

- Chair of the Alcohol and Drug Steering Committee
- Collegiate Tobacco Prevention Initiative grant, campus coordinator
- Retention Committee Member
- Search Committee Member- RN position, Orientation Leaders, Director of Student Activities, Residence Director Positions
- Chair of the Counseling Center and Diversity Office secretary search
- Student Life Committee Member
- Associated Colleges Alcohol Committee
- North Country Alcohol Consortium
- Presenter for Student Admitted Day
- Presenter for Student Leadership Seminars
- Presenter for Administrative Professional Day
- Who's Who Among College Students selection committee member
- ASE Testing Supervisor
- TIPS Training Host
- Host of the BASIC Training for fall 2006

*NOMINATION*

*LETTERS*

*FOR*

*MELINDA MILLER*



January 26, 2011

Dear Recognition Committee members,

I am pleased to submit Melinda Miller's name for your consideration for the Excellence in College Service Award. I have had the privilege of working with Melinda for the past thirteen years and I have always been impressed with her dedication to helping the students we serve. Being a mental health counselor is often a very stressful job but Melinda handles these responsibilities easily and cheerfully. She often sacrifices time with her family to come to campus at night and on weekends to help a student in crisis.

In addition to her counseling duties, Melinda presents dozens of educational programs to students in the residence halls, to students in Greek organizations, and to other student groups on campus. She also coordinates the mandatory alcohol education programs presented to students who have been disciplined by the Dean of Students. If that doesn't keep her busy enough, Melinda volunteers her time to be an advisor to the College Union Board, the Omega Alpha Commuter Club, and the Peer Educators.

Melinda's leadership as the Director of Counseling Services is also evident in the cheerful manner that the rest of her staff takes when assisting students in need. All of her counselors are top notch professionals who tackle all student problems large or small.

In the enclosed packet, you will find testimonials from colleagues and students who share my deep conviction that Melinda is indeed worthy of your consideration. They will agree that Melinda Miller is a person of integrity whose hard work shows every day.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Quinell', written over a horizontal line.

Scott Quinell  
Counselor  
Educational Opportunity Program



**DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS**

State University of New York • 34 Cornell Dr. • Canton, NY 13617-1096 • [www.canton.edu](http://www.canton.edu)

**DAVIS STUDENT HEALTH CENTER**

Campus Center 004

OFFICE: 315-386-7333

FAX: 315-386-7932

[toddpa@canton.edu](mailto:toddpa@canton.edu)

December 17, 2010

Ms. Christa Kelson  
Chair of Recognition and Awards Committee  
Faculty Office Building 416  
SUNY Canton  
Canton, New York 13617

Dear Christa and Recognition and Awards Committee:

It is with great honor and pleasure that I nominate Melinda Miller for the 2011 Excellence in College Service Award. I am also pleased to share the honor of nominating Melinda with Scott Quinell. Her professional skills and dedication to the College have truly been demonstrated throughout her 15 years of service.

Her effectiveness in performance is demonstrated daily through her numerous professional duties. The Health Center staff works with her on a very regular basis in her primary role as a Director of Personal Counseling. All of the health care providers that have worked with Melinda have expressed what a competent and caring professional she is. She is always ready to serve students often in the middle of the night when there is a crisis. She has spent countless hours with students in the Emergency Room advocating for them during crisis situations so they obtain the best care possible. She has worked with many local agencies trying to improve student access to mental health care which is so limited in the North Country. She has brought the Personal Counseling Center from an obscure department to the forefront of service to both our students and her colleagues. Last year, the Counseling Center had almost 2,000 client sessions and had over 5,000 educational contacts.

Along with her counseling duties, she also does classroom presentations and instructs and coordinates the Alcohol and Drug Awareness classes that are mandated for students who violate the college's alcohol/drug policies. She offers health related programs in the evening on a weekly basis in the Residence Halls, along with special programs such as the Great American Smokeout, Safe Sex and Responsibility, Stress Free Zone and Depression Screening. Melinda has a very meager budget to work with, but garners support from Residence Life, Housing, SCA, my office and other departments to make these programs possible.

Her service to the local community is evident as well. Melinda has served as a member of the Domestic Violence Task Force of St. Lawrence County, St. Lawrence County Health Initiative and serves as a Board Member for the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Council. She is well known in the community among her peers and can assist with making referrals and contacts with different agencies. On campus, Melinda has been a member of numerous committees such as the Student Life Committee, Coordinator for the Student Mediation Program, Chair of the Alcohol and Drug Steering Committee and CATS Society member. She is always the

December 17, 2010



*Accredited by the*

ACCREDITATION ASSOCIATION  
*for* AMBULATORY HEALTH CARE, INC.

December 17, 2010

Page 2

first to volunteer in our Division to assist in activities, especially Family Weekend and Springfest. She has assisted me with the Health Fair and Blood Banks. Her list of campus involvement is tiring!

Finally, her personal contact with students is the most outstanding quality of her professional character. It is evident on a daily basis that she is involved with our students. She was instrumental in obtaining a new commuter lounge space and having it fully renovated and furnished, including computers and a full kitchen. She was mugged for all her work with the commuters by Dr. Kennedy in September 2002. She has served as co-advisor for the College Activities Board and works closely with the Resident Assistant staff. She advises the Commuter Club and advises and works closely with students in Peer Educator program.

There isn't an RA that doesn't know her. They more affectionately call her the condom lady since part of her program usually involves lots of free condoms. Melinda truly relates with them on their level. Melinda reaches out to students in a friendly, helpful and supportive manner. Having that personal contact with students truly enhances student engagement.

It is always a pleasure to work with Melinda. I am confident that she is well deserving of this award. She is an exceptional example of an outstanding member of the Campus Community and embraces the true spirit of this award. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Todd". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Patricia Todd, RN-C, ANP  
Director, Davis Health Center



*FACULTY AND  
STAFF LETTERS*

*OF SUPPORT*

*FOR*

*MELINDA MILLER*



**VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS/DEAN OF ACADEMIC SERVICES AND RETENTION**

State University of New York • 34 Cornell Dr. • Canton, NY 13617-1096 • [www.canton.edu](http://www.canton.edu)

MOLLY A. MOTT, Ph.D.

OFFICE: 315-386-7120

FAX: 315-386-7447

[mottma@canton.edu](mailto:mottma@canton.edu)

January 10, 2011

Ms. Christa Kelson, Chair  
Recognition & Awards Committee  
SUNY Canton  
Canton, NY 13617

To the Awards Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of support for Melinda Miller. She is most deserving of the 2010-2011 Excellence in College Service Award. Melinda has been employed at SUNY Canton since 1996 as a Counselor in one capacity or another. Now she is not only a Counselor, but the Director of the Counseling Center at the college. Melinda also takes on the role of instructor as she teaches classes on a regular basis.

I could go on and on about the many roles that Melinda takes on around campus. She has been an advisor to student clubs, a peer educator, and assisted with the student government organization. It is obvious to anyone who knows and works with Melinda that her dedication to the students and SUNY Canton is above and beyond what is expected of her.

As Melinda's supervisor, I would like to add how wonderful she is to work with. Always eager to do all she can to assist students in need, she often puts her own world aside as she works late or comes to campus on the weekend to make sure that a student in need is safe and cared for. Melinda is always thinking of new and better ways to streamline processes to make it easier and faster to provide assistance to students with issues. She was a part of the newly created "Emergency Fund" through the SUNY Canton Foundation which provides emergency funding for students without resources and with immediate need.

It is without reservation that I strongly support Melinda's nomination for the 2010-2011 Excellence in College Service Award. Her constant and true commitment to each and every student who she comes in contact with is immeasurable. Melinda truly makes SUNY Canton a better place.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Molly Mott', written in a cursive style.

Dr. Molly Mott

MM/jl



**Dean of Students**

State University of New York 34 Cornell Dr. Canton, New York 13617-1096

[www.canton.edu](http://www.canton.edu)

Daniel J. Sweeney

Miller Campus Center, Suite 229

Office Ph: 315-386-7120

Fax: 315-386-7990

[sweenedj@canton.edu](mailto:sweenedj@canton.edu)

DATE: January 19, 2011

TO: Patty Todd

FROM: Dan Sweeney  
V. P Student Affairs Emeritus  
Dean of Students

RE: M. Miller's Nomination/ Excellence in College Service Award

I am writing whole heartily supporting Ms. Melinda Miller's nomination for the annual Excellence in College Service Award. From the first day she started working at SUNY Canton in 1996 through today she has given time unselfishly, always placing the needs of students before everything else. She is on campus presenting education programming or tending to the needs of a student at all times of the day whether it be 3 PM or 3 AM. She is unquestionably dedicated to the students often going beyond the call of duty. She treats students often as she would want her own treated. It is not unusual that she is sitting with a student at the hospital through the night and yet she will show up in her office the next day with only a couple of hours of sleep.

She is regarded as a true professional by both students and faculty/staff. She is not afraid to make hard decisions and carry through on them. She does all of this with a very pleasant personality and a supportive demeanor.

For these reasons, I unquestionably support her being nominated for the Excellence in College Service Award. I cannot think of a more deserving person.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Sweeney

DJS/th

December 22, 2010

Christa Kelson  
Chair, Recognition & Awards Committee  
SUNY Canton

Christa,

I am writing to you in support of Melinda Miller's nomination for the 2011 Excellence in College Service Award.

As a staff member of the Counseling Center, I work with Melinda on a day-to-day basis. During my two and a half years at SUNY Canton, I consider myself fortunate to work with Melinda and admire the above-and-beyond effort she brings to the college every day. Melinda constantly makes time for students, faculty, and staff. She can typically be found after hours working on a project to address some need on campus.

As Director of the Counseling Center, Melinda is flexible, encouraging, and supportive of all those she supervises. She often takes on additional responsibilities to make sure the other counselors and myself have time to meet with steady flow of students who enter the counseling center any given day of the week. Melinda regularly coordinates with other campus offices (i.e. Accommodative Services) and community agencies (i.e. Renewal House) for referrals as well as sponsor student programs such as Holiday Stress-Free Bingo (co-sponsored with Student Activities & College Activities Board). In order to provide the best services possible, Melinda has helped organize workshops and trainings such as sponsoring the New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault's "Promoting Student Safety and Learning: Building a Campus Free of Sexual Violence" which was free to SUNY Canton and community members. Also, Melinda has served as an internship supervisor for graduate students in St Lawrence University's masters in counseling program. In addition to her administrative duties, Melinda carries a full-case load of students. Due to referrals from her former and current clients, Melinda is often routinely asked for by new students. She also takes a majority of the on-call periods (nights & weekends) which has required her to come to the campus or travel to local hospital to provide support for students in crisis.

Beyond the Counseling Center, Melinda is active in other areas of campus. She participates on a number of committees which include Operation Military-Friendly, Spiritual Life Committee, and Admissions Review Board. She's has taught classes on alcohol and drugs. This semester alone she taught two sections of Alcohol & Drugs in Society. Students from these classes have noted how much they enjoyed and learned from her class. Melinda also serves as a club advisor for the Commuter Club and the Peer Educators.

Melinda demonstrates what it means to be devoted to the SUNY Canton community and has my full support in her nomination for the Excellence in College Service Award.

Sincerely,  
James "Jim" Sheppard, LMHC  
SUNY Canton Counseling Center

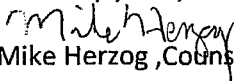
1/06/11

To Whom It May Concern:

Melinda Miller is a well deserving nominee for the "Excellence in College Service Award". In the four years that I have worked in the SUNY Canton Counseling Center Melinda has served as the Director of Counseling. She provides much more than just what this position requires as Melinda epitomizes the concept of being a "team player". Somehow she manages to handle not only her administrative responsibilities but also maintains a caseload and responds to crisis situations that can occur 7 days a week, 24 hours a day. There is no task too large or too small that Melinda wouldn't be involved in if it meant that some benefit will be derived for our students. Besides effectively completing the responsibilities associated with her leadership position she also makes time to be involved in just about every other aspect of campus life. Whether it is teaching a class, being a Club Advisor, chaperoning an overnight trip to NYC, a football game in Buffalo, a midnight pancake breakfast or any of the other campus activities that occur after the typical 8 to 5 day Melinda can be counted on to do what she feels needs to be done to make sure our students enjoy their college experience. Her willingness to go above and beyond what her job expectations define have resulted in her being able to make effective changes in the Counseling Center to meet the needs of SUNY Canton's every changing population.

It can be a daunting task to try to summarize all that Melinda means to the Campus Community. From my perspective she has made my experience at SUNY Canton a most positive one and I'm sure in one way or another she has done the same for all others whether it be students or employees. Good luck to the selection committee as I'm sure there probably isn't a bad choice to be made but from my perspective Melinda would be most deserving of this award.

Sincerely yours,

  
Mike Herzog, Counseling Center



DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

State University of New York • 34 Cornell Dr. • Canton, NY 13617-1096 • [www.canton.edu](http://www.canton.edu)

COUNSELING CENTER

Campus Center, Suite 225

OFFICE: 315-386-7085

SECRETARY: 315-386-7314

FAX: 315-386-7004

[millerm@canton.edu](mailto:millerm@canton.edu)

Dear College Council Committee,

I am writing this letter to nominate Melinda Miller, Director of the Personal Counseling Center, for the 2010 Excellence in College Service Award.

I have known Melinda since I started as a part-time counselor in 2006 when she was serving as Interim Director of Counseling Services and have worked under her supervision for these past five years. Thus I feel I have had a wonderful opportunity to see her dedication to her profession and particularly to the unique needs of our SUNY Canton students.

Melinda has been involved in every area of our campus community. She reaches out to our parents and students through educational programming and resident assistance training in conjunction with the Office of Orientation and with Residence Life regularly. She routinely volunteers her personal time to form lasting bonds of friendship with our international students and to help ensure that their time at SUNY Canton is culturally as well as academically enriching. She volunteers to chaperone events with the Student Activities office and has been a vital part of pulling off many concerts and trips with her tireless, self-effacing, "behind the scenes" support. All of this service is above and beyond Melinda's endless hours of middle-of-the-night crisis calls, trips to campus to provide assessment, and often hours of waiting with distraught students for admission to the Mental Health Unit at the hospital.

Additionally, Melinda holds administrative responsibilities such as endless reports of our ever-changing and increasing statistics, supervision of the other counselors, and budgeting in our department. In terms of budgeting, when money has been short in the budget, Melinda routinely takes cash from her own wallet if needed to make our events more inviting to students by providing little refreshments and small comforts. Melinda has been instrumental in coordinating social services and emergency aid for our most needy students, some of whom have been homeless and penniless in the cold winter. She has worked closely with our Spiritual Life Committee to coordinate local charities to provide personal hygiene items, warm clothing and food to our students in need.

The list goes on: Melinda also runs the Peer Education Program which provides an opportunity for our students to take a leadership role in promoting health and wellness issues directly to their peers. On top of all this, Melinda has taught several sections of *Alcohol, Drugs and Society* last semester and in previous academic years.

Clearly, Melinda Miller has selflessly and tirelessly been carrying on this juggling act of service to our students for many years. Recognizing her dedication to our students by awarding her the 2010 Excellence in College Service Award would be most appropriate. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding this nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kira E. Royce".

Kira Royce, M.S. Mental Health Counseling,  
M.Ed Counseling, C.A.S  
Counselor, SUNY Canton Personal Counseling Center  
34 Cornell Drive  
Canton, NY 13617



**DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS**

State University of New York • 34 Cornell Dr. • Canton, NY 13617-1096 • [www.canton.edu](http://www.canton.edu)

DEPARTMENT OF RESIDENCE LIFE

OFFICE: 315-386-7513

FAX: 315-386-7969

[reslife@canton.edu](mailto:reslife@canton.edu)

January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2011

After working with Melinda for nearly four years, it is apparent how much she is devoted to our campus. She goes above and beyond to help make our campus what it is. Many times during the week, Melinda can be found on campus well after her office closes; preparing things for student programs, getting lesson plans ready for her class, shopping for Bingo, administering test, helping one of the many clubs that she advises, or at the request of the students, attending their events.

Amongst the Resident Assistant staff, there is a running joke: "Feeling sad, depressed, or confused?!, call Melinda Miller, she'll help you!." Although they joke, the reality is the students hold a high level of respect for Melinda. Many times throughout the residence halls, I hear my RAs and other students telling one another how much Melinda has helped them with some of their issues. Many young adults put a negative stigma on counseling. Melinda has found a way to break this stigma, further illustrating how wonderful she is! The Resident Assistant staff and all students on campus know that no matter how big or small their problem, they can always go to Melinda, and she will help them out.

As I sit writing this letter, I realize that my words cannot do enough justice to describe how wonderful Melinda truly is. No amount of training can make someone as caring and thoughtful as Melinda. Melinda has many roles on campus: she's a counselor, a mentor, a mother figure, and a friend. Melinda works extremely hard, and she is very dedicated to the counseling department, the students, and to the entire campus community.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Kristen Roberts'.

*Kristen Roberts*

Assistant Director of Residence Life

December 22, 2010

Christa Kelson  
Chair, Recognition & Awards Committee  
SUNY Canton

Dear Christa,

I am writing today to express my deepest support for Melinda Miller in her nomination for the 2011 Excellence in College Service Award.

I am the Counseling Center's secretary; Melinda and I work together daily. Melinda always makes time for students, faculty, and staff no matter what her agenda is for the day. She often goes beyond the average 8-4 work day/week schedule. She is willing with no complaint to answer many issues on and off campus at a variety of hours including weekends, evenings, and holidays. If there is a project on campus you can always believe that Melinda will be involved. Melinda loves what she does and it spills out to the students, our campus, and our community naturally.

Since I have come to work here at SUNY Canton, Melinda has done all she could and then some to make my transition easy and comfortable. She is very knowledgeable, caring, and supportive. I consider myself fortunate to work with Melinda.

The word excellence is a mirror of who Melinda is and what she stands for. I cannot think of a better person who deserves the Excellence in College Service Award.

Sincerely,  
Tammy Harradine  
SUNY Canton Counseling Center





**DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS**

State University of New York • 34 Cornell Dr. • Canton, NY 13617-1096 • [www.canton.edu](http://www.canton.edu)

DEPARTMENT OF RESIDENCE LIFE

OFFICE: 315-386-7513

FAX: 315-386-7969

[reslife@canton.edu](mailto:reslife@canton.edu)

January 6, 2011

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter of support of the nomination of Melinda Miller for the Excellence in College Service Award. I have had the privilege of sharing an office, and working closely, with Melinda over the past nine years that I have worked at the college. Melinda has been not only a colleague, but a dear friend, and someone who is deserving of this award.

Melinda has worked at SUNY Canton for thirteen years, and has served most recently as the Director of Personal Counseling. In Melinda's role, she works closely with students who have mental health issues or other counseling needs, and also plays an integral role in the alcohol and drug education on campus. Melinda, along with the other counselors in her department, host educational programming in the residence halls and campus-wide and are seen on campus in the wee hours of morning to handle mental health crises.

Very few know how valuable Melinda is to the campus, nor how many hours she dedicates to SUNY Canton. Melinda has two young children and a husband, but probably spends more time with the students of SUNY Canton than with her own family. Melinda personally sits with each student who has to undergo a mental health evaluation at the local hospitals, which often means sitting with them for several hours and even overnight.

Melinda also advises both the Commuter Club and the Peer Educators, and has spent much of her time and energy dealing with both groups. She also frequently attends College Union Board meetings to discuss extracurricular programming and has helped organize programs for the campus. She is instrumental in bringing a keynote speaker each year for our freshman on the topic of alcohol and drugs, and has brought excellent speakers in the past such as Dan Davis and Elizabeth Wurtzel.

Melinda also volunteers to chaperone events, such as trips to New York City for a Knicks basketball game or trips to Buffalo for a Bills football game. Many faculty and staff members hesitate to volunteer for events such as these, both because of the tremendous time commitment and the idea of being responsible for upwards of fifty college students, but Melinda does not hesitate. She knows that she has a good rapport with the students, and enjoys spending one-on-one time with them.

On top of all of this, Melinda takes the time out to get to know students on the campus. She has a positive relationship with many students, including our student leaders, and they know they can turn to

her and trust her. Melinda stays late for programming and helps out with events on campus, and is very active within the campus community.

Melinda is kind, good-hearted, and genuinely a nice person to work with. She is always willing to do her fair share of the work, and is always willing to help colleagues out. Melinda has dedicated many hours and much effort to SUNY Canton, and has been a dedicated employee for many years.

I hope you will consider Melinda for this award, as I feel she has earned it through her dedicated service to SUNY Canton. I would be glad to answer any other questions you have, and thank you for your time in reading this letter.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Courtney B. Bish". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Courtney Battista Bish  
Director of Residence Life



**DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS**

State University of New York • 34 Cornell Dr. • Canton, NY 13617-1096 • [www.canton.edu](http://www.canton.edu)

**DAVIS STUDENT HEALTH CENTER**

Campus Center 004

OFFICE: 315-386-7333

FAX: 315-386-7932

[toddpa@canton.edu](mailto:toddpa@canton.edu)

January 12, 2011

Christa Kelson

Chair of Recognition & Awards Committee

Dear Ms. Kelson,

I would like to nominate Melinda Miller for Excellence in College Service Award. Melinda has put in countless hours above and beyond her regular hours in insuring the safety and mental health of our students. I have known her to take a student to Claxton- Hepburn Medical Center for psychiatric evaluation and spend hours in the emergency department. She has done this on MANY occasions.

She continues to "touch base" with other departments to keep abreast of potential volatile situations. The Health center has greatly appreciated her in integrating needed mental health services with the health office. We have many cases where a student's health has improved due to the coordinated efforts of both departments, often, thanks to Melinda.

She is always looking for ways to educate our students on recognizing possible social and mental hazards and techniques in dealing with these situations. She has created, participated, and coordinated many outreach programs.

She's genuinely kind and compassionate to students and co-workers on and off campus. She can certainly be the face of "This is MY SUNY Canton!" Please consider her for this award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Martha J. Cole NP'.

Martha J. Cole, NP



**DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS**

State University of New York • 34 Cornell Dr. • Canton, NY 13617-1096 • [www.canton.edu](http://www.canton.edu)

DAVIS STUDENT HEALTH CENTER

Campus Center 004

OFFICE: 315-386-7333

FAX: 315-386-7932

[toddpa@canton.edu](mailto:toddpa@canton.edu)

Julie Cruickshank, RN

Davis Health Center

January 10, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter in support of Melinda Miller for the 2010 Excellence in College Service Award. When I began my employment with SUNY Canton in April 2007, Melinda made me feel welcome to the campus community. I was fortunate to do various educational programs with Melinda and she has always demonstrated the utmost professionalism.

Melinda has been very active not only within her department but within the entire Student Affairs Division. Her personality is calm and I'm sure reassuring to students. As the Director of the Counseling Center, she has continued the unique practice of one-to-one companionship of our students while they wait for mental health evaluation in the acute care setting. I can only imagine how reassuring this must be to the student in crisis.

It is my pleasure to recommend Melinda for this service award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Julie Cruickshank'.

Julie Cruickshank, RN, BSN



Campus Center 004  
OFFICE: 315-386-7333

December 13, 2010

Christa Kelson  
Chair of the Recognition & Awards Committee  
SUNY Canton College  
34 Cornell Drive  
Canton, New York 13617

Dear Ms. Kelson:

I am writing this letter in support of Melinda Miller's nomination for the 2010 Excellence in College Service Award. I have worked with Melinda for 12 years and have seen how dedicated she is to the students she serves and to the college. Her energy is boundless spending many hours with students who are in a crisis situation and she never complains. She is first to volunteer for anything that may need her support.

Melinda is always professional yet caring and compassionate towards the students she serves in the Counseling Center or elsewhere. Her dedication to the College has been reflected in every aspect of her many different jobs she has held here. As a Peer Educator or Personal Counselor, her responsibility level was equal. She is able to assess and evaluate students' problems and assist them in defining and achieving their goals. Melinda has made many changes to the counseling services available here. She has gone from a part-time Drug and Alcohol Counselor to full-time Director of Personal Counseling Services with three counselors under her direct supervision.

In closing, I feel Melinda is very deserving of this award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jane Frank'.

Jane Frank  
Nurse/Manager  
Davis Health Center

*Accredited by the*



ACCREDITATION ASSOCIATION  
*for* AMBULATORY HEALTH CARE, INC.



**DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS**

State University of New York • 34 Cornell Dr. • Canton, NY 13617-1096 • [www.canton.edu](http://www.canton.edu)

DAVIS STUDENT HEALTH CENTER

Campus Center 004

OFFICE: 315-386-7333

FAX: 315-386-7932

[toddpa@canton.edu](mailto:toddpa@canton.edu)

December 13, 2010

Ms. Christa Kelson  
Chair of the Recognition & Awards Committee  
SUNY Canton  
34 Cornell Drive  
Canton, NY 13617

Dear Ms. Kelson:

I am writing this letter in support of Melinda Miller being nominated for the 2010 Excellence in College Service Award. I have known Melinda for approximately six years both personally and professionally. I have always known Melinda to be a very caring, kind-hearted individual who comes from a very loving family.

Melinda spends a tremendous amount of time while at work and after working hours dealing with students in crisis situations. She always goes out of her way to make each student feel comfortable and appreciated. She has a great rapport with students and colleagues alike.

Melinda is always first in line to volunteer for a task. She has served on many extracurricular committees/organizations. You could not ask for a more dependable and conscientious individual.

I strongly recommend that Melinda Miller be the next recipient of the 2010 Excellence in College Service Award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Lisa St. Germain'.

Lisa St. Germain, KBS 2  
Davis Health Center



State University of New York • 34 Cornell Dr. • Canton, NY 13617-1096 • [www.canton.edu](http://www.canton.edu)

OFFICE: 315-386-7623

FAX: 315-386-7991

January 11, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to offer words of support for the nomination for the Excellence in College Service Award regarding Melinda Miller . I have known and worked with Melinda for many years at SUNY Canton and have come to know her both as a colleague and person. During 2003-04 I worked closely with Melinda while I was serving as Interim Director of Student Activities and she was a volunteer advisor to the College Union Board. She was one of those few professionals whom I could always look to for support and to count on for assistance. I have continued for the past two years to work with Melinda on a regular basis both in my capacity as College Association Executive Director and Director of Student Activities.

Melinda is truly a professional who is well received by both students and fellow employees. She takes her responsibilities very seriously and can always be counted upon to carry through on tasks. She sees her role at the college as more of a calling in support of our students than just a job. On many occasions I have assisted with special events such as concerts and other activities outside the normal operating hours of the campus and one of the consistent faces I have seen is Melinda. She is a student advocate and will do whatever necessary to support the needs and success of the students of our college.

I offer my complete support on behalf of Melinda for the Excellence in College Service Award. She is most deserving of the recognition.

Most Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael J. Perry', written over a horizontal line.

Michael J. Perry  
Executive Director — College Association, Inc.  
Director of Student Activities



January 18, 2011

Ms. Christa Kelson, Chair  
Recognition & Awards Committee  
SUNY Canton  
Canton, NY 13617

Dear Members of the Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter in support of Melinda Miller's nomination for the 2010 Excellence in College Service Award. I have worked with Melinda since she became an employee at SUNY Canton in 1996; during part of this time I was her secretary and had daily contact with her.

From the very beginning of Melinda's employment, she immediately stood apart from others due to her selfless dedication to the job and the college. Melinda is very active on campus as a member of various committees, many of which revolve around student wellness, as well as being a club advisor to the Peer Educators and Commuter Club. In addition, she works very closely with the College Activities Board and Student Government Association, assisting with and attending many programs.

No matter what events are taking place in her personal life, Melinda always put the students' needs first. On numerous occasions I have heard her say that when her husband was working, she called her family in the middle of the night to watch her children because she had to leave for a crisis on campus with a student. She would never even give a second thought to asking someone else to take care of the situation. Since she became the Director of Counseling, Melinda has turned the Department around. It now consists of a well-respected staff of caring individuals who work closely with many students, faculty and staff on campus. As a result of Melinda's direction, the Counseling Center is a welcoming place for anyone on campus who needs assistance with any matter of concern.

Due to these reasons and many others, you will not find a more caring, compassionate and hard working employee who is very dedicated to her profession as a counselor and to making SUNY Canton a better place.

If I may offer any further assistance with Melinda's nomination, please do not hesitate to contact me.

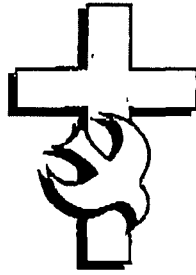
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Janet E. Livingston'.

Janet E. Livingston  
Secretary 2



Saint Thomas More  
Catholic Newman Center  
33 Court Street  
Canton, NY 13617  
315-386-8425



Business Office  
St. Mary's Rectory  
68 Court Street  
Canton, NY 13617  
315-386-2543

[www.cantonecatholics.com](http://www.cantonecatholics.com)

January 2011

Dear Members of the Recognition and Awards Committee:

I am writing this letter to nominate Melinda Miller for the 2010 Excellence in College Service Award.

As Catholic Campus Minister I have known and worked with Melinda since she began here at SUNY Canton as a part-time alcohol and drug counselor in 1996. We have had many opportunities to work together, i.e. writing for a grant from Character Development Committee to obtain furnishings for the Meditation Room located between Campus Ministry Office and the Counseling Offices, co-sponsored many events, like the Labyrinth Walk, and other efforts that mutually support the needs of the students through both Offices.

I have found Melinda a very creative, dependable and a wonderful person to work with individually or as a team member. She possesses a caring and welcoming presence that tends to make one feel at ease in her presence. Her commitment to the needs of the students is demonstrated so often when she spends many hours over and above regular hours to ensure the safety and well being of the student that may be at risk.

It is with sincere pleasure that I nominate Melinda for this Excellence in College Service Award for 2010.

Sincerely,

Sister Bethany Fitzgerald

Campus Minister

This ministry is made possible through the generosity of St. Mary's Parishioners and the annual Bishop's Fund Appeal.



January 7, 2011

Recognitions and Awards Committee  
SUNY Canton  
34 Cornell Dr.  
Canton, NY 13617

Dear Members of the Excellence in College Service Award Committee:

I am offering this letter in support of the nomination of Melinda Miller, Director of Counseling Services for the 2011 Excellence in College Service Award. I have known Ms. Miller since Fall 2007. Each semester Ms. Miller has represented Counseling Services as a guest speaker for my BASK 060: Freshman Seminar classes. In addition, I frequently refer TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) students to Ms. Miller for personal counseling.

Ms. Miller's presentations to Freshman Seminar students, which include information on general counseling services and drug and alcohol prevention, are always well received. These students include participants of TRiO SSS, a program for low income, first-generation and disabled students who have a strong academic need. Her unique approach, calming demeanor and compassion allow her to establish a quick rapport with students.

Ms. Miller's support for students is evident through her college service as Club Advisor to the Commuter Club, Peer Educators, Student Government and other campus organizations. In addition, she has been an essential piece in the growth of the Counseling Center since she joined its staff in 1996, as a part-time Counselor and then becoming Director in 2007. Ms. Miller has been influential in the growth and retention of countless students. She has gone above and beyond the call of her position, routinely offering support to students in crisis at all hours of the day and night.

It is Ms. Miller's dedication to SUNY Canton and its students that makes her an excellent candidate for this award. Without reservation, I recommend Melinda Miller for the 2011 Excellence in College Service Award. Should you have any questions regarding this recommendation, I may be reached at 315-379-3902.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Farren C. Davis", written over a horizontal line.

Farren C. Davis, NCC  
Academic Counselor  
TRiO SSS



January 11, 2011

Excellence in College Service Award  
Committee Members  
SUNY Canton  
34 Cornell Drive  
Canton, NY 13617

To Whom it May Concern:

I am writing this letter of support for Melinda Miller to be awarded the Excellence in College Service Award. I have had the pleasure of working with Melinda throughout my years here at SUNY Canton. I first met Melinda when I was working as an Admissions Counselor in 2004.

I have worked closer with Melinda since gaining employment in the EOP Office. She has been a tremendous help to me and my EOP students. There have been numerous times when I have had to refer a student to counseling. Melinda is always approachable and welcoming; qualities that my students appreciate. Many of our SUNY Canton students utilize our counseling services. This speaks volumes about Melinda's directorship and the effectiveness of her staff in aiding our students. Also, the faculty and staff think very highly of Melinda and appreciate the weekends and late nights she has worked.

Melinda is tremendously dedicated and genuine. Her concern for students and the college is extraordinary. She is always professional and personable. Melinda has clearly demonstrated that she is a worthy recipient of the Excellence in College Service Award. I enthusiastically support the nomination of Melinda Miller for this award. Please feel free to contact me if any further information is needed regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

*Anne Drake*

Anne Drake  
EOP Counselor  
SUNY Canton  
315-386-7113

December 15, 2010

Professor Christa Kelson  
Chair of the Recognition and Awards Committee  
SUNY Canton

Dear Professor Kelson:

I am wholeheartedly writing to support the nomination of Melinda Miller, Director of the campus Counseling Center, for the 2011 Excellence in College Service Award.

As Director of Accommodative (Disability) Services, I work closely with the entire Counseling Center and have since 1999. I have witnessed the Counseling Center go through transitions over the last eleven years. I am certain that the capacity and quality that it now esteems is directly due to the leadership of Melinda Miller.

The collaboration between the Counseling Center and Accommodative Services is a natural one as we work with many of the same students. Working together expands the resources and services for these individual students. I can absolutely count on Melinda to follow through on any mental health referrals to the immediate and expanded communities of New York State. This is true not only of Melinda but of the entire counseling staff that she supervises.

Melinda personifies mastery of specialization by the fact that she sought licensure as a mental health counselor as soon as the licensure became available in New York State. She has promoted the licensure of all of her current professional staff. Melinda has also been responsible for mentoring many interns from St. Lawrence University who are seeking licensure. I have been one of the fortunate interns to fall under Melinda's guidance. She was my intern supervisor during the Fall 2010 semester and I cannot even begin to say how much I learned, especially by her example. Melinda personifies everything I would like to be as a licensed practicing counselor. She is caring, a good listener, empathic, warm, non judgmental while providing direction and support. Her persona is why students feel very comfortable disclosing personal confidences to her.

Melinda's profession takes her beyond the borders of a typical work day and even beyond the confines of the SUNY Canton campus. Melinda is often called to campus in the middle of the night when there is a student crisis. She works with local agencies, such as: St. Lawrence county Mental Health Services, Renewal House and Reach Out to provide additional needed resources for our students.

Although Melinda has her license as a Mental Health Counselor, she continues her education and update of the latest therapies through workshops, information provided through her listserv and reading current journals and publications.

I have served on the Admission Review Board with Melinda and we are currently serving on the Operation Military Friendly committee. Melinda and I have worked in

partnership more than once with student veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan to help their transition from the battlefield to the classroom.

Melinda Miller exemplifies all that is excellent in providing college support services. I truly hope that the committee will recognize this worthy individual.

Sincerely,

*Veigh Mehan Lee*

Veigh Mehan Lee, M.Ed  
Director of Accommodative (Disability) Services



## Division of Administrative Affairs

State University of New York □ College of Technology □ Canton, New York 13617 □ 315-386-7011

Debra A. Lowry  
Special Events Coordinator  
Miller Campus Center 222  
Ph: 315-386-7342 Fax: 315-386-7962  
Lowryd@canton.edu

January 7, 2011

Ms Christa Kelson  
Chair, Chair of Recognition and Awards Committee  
Faculty Office Building 416  
SUNY Canton  
Canton, New York 13617

Dear Christa and Recognition and Awards Committee:

I would like to take this opportunity to nominate Melinda Miller for the 2011 Excellence in College Service Award.

I have known Melinda since she became an employee of the College in 1996. In the early portion of her employment she was the Alcohol and Drug Educator at SUNY Canton and later became a Personal Counselor, Interim Director of Counseling. She became the Director of Counseling in 2007.

Throughout her career at SUNY Canton her concern for the mental well-being of the campus community has been clearly demonstrated in her professional approach to the College's student body. She has become a successful educator and prevention advocate for our students, making herself available to the students for a whole variety of day and evening programs, consultations and responses to emergencies.

As mental health issues continue to become more complex and frequent, Melinda has become a highly respected resource to our students and the university health care profession. Her position requires that she deal with a diverse population of students in a compassionate, caring manner, many times outside of what is considered a "normal work day." Melinda meets and exceeds these requirements.

Melinda's concern for the well being of the campus is demonstrated further by her volunteer service. Personally, I can speak to her willingness to provide her services as an Omega Alpha Advisor. In addition, she advises CUB (College Union Board) and Peer Educators. Melinda has served for many years as a member of the Seaway Valley Counsel for Alcohol Substance Prevention Council.

Melinda is an extremely capable, highly motivated, and to quote a student "She's user-friendly!" Melinda continues to be a valuable asset to SUNY Canton and the greater community. She is highly deserving of the SUNY Canton 2011 Excellence in College Service Award. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Debra A. Lowry



## UPWARD BOUND PROGRAM

State University of New York • 34 Cornell Dr. • Canton, NY 13617-1096 • [www.canton.edu](http://www.canton.edu)

OFFICE: 315-379-3940

FAX: 315-379-3947

December 13, 2010

Selection Committee  
Excellence in College Service Award  
SUNY Canton

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in support of the nomination of Melinda Miller for the Excellence in College Service Award, based on her college service as Director of Counseling. In this capacity, Melinda Miller has been of assistance to the students and faculty and staff of SUNY Canton.

I have listened in awe during Student Affairs Department Head meetings and Division meetings to the wide range of essential programming that Melinda's office provides. Also astonishing are the hours Ms. Miller keeps in order to serve the ever-increasing number of students in crisis at SUNY Canton.

Melinda is a strong advocate for the SUNY Canton Counseling Office. In a time of decreasing funds, she keeps the necessary records to show the increasing need for funding services from her department. She works closely with the SUNY Canton Health Center and with Residence Life so that she can triangulate with these other departments to provide services that make the best use of the limited dollars available for the total health of our students.

Thank you for your consideration of this nomination.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Daun Martin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Daun Martin, Ed.D.  
Director, Upward Bound



January 3, 2011

Recognition & Awards Committee  
SUNY Canton

Dear Committee Members,

It is with pleasure I support Melinda Miller's Nomination for Excellence in College Service Award. Over the last ten years, Melinda and I have maintained an effective working relationship. She is very knowledgeable with campus policies, rules and procedures. Additionally, she utilizes her knowledge of outside agencies to assist students. Every semester, I refer TRiO SSS students to Melinda. I have always known her to respond to these students in a timely and helpful manner. It is a relief to know that Melinda can guide these students to a person/agency that may assist them with their dilemma. Melinda has the knowledge, skills and personal attitude to make a positive impact on students. She is an excellent and dedicated counselor.

Melinda has also offered her services as a guest speaker in my Freshman Seminar classes over the last ten years. During these visits, I have noticed she is very approachable and has always shown a genuine concern for students. She eagerly shares information and resources with me and the students, as well. She keeps current with new developments within her profession and utilizes information from current mediums in her classroom presentation. Moreover, she has demonstrated respect for all individuals regardless of background or culture. Students comment that Melinda is genuinely friendly and has helped them overcome obstacles making them far more likely to succeed.

I value Melinda's extraordinary knowledge, openness and collegial spirit. Therefore, I support her Nomination for Excellence in College Service Award without reservation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Brenda Miller'.

Brenda Miller  
Assistant Director TRiO SSS  
SUNY Canton  
34 Cornell Drive  
Canton, NY 13617  
315-386-7406



State University of New York  
College of Technology  
34 Cornell Dr.  
Canton, NY 13617-1096



January 18, 2011  
Ms. Christa Kelson, Chair  
Recognition and Awards Committee  
Faculty Office Building 416  
SUNY Canton  
Canton, NY 13617

Dear Ms. Kelson and Committee,

It is an honor and a privilege to write a reference letter recommending Melinda Miller for the Excellence in College Service Award. Melinda not only makes extraordinary contributions daily (and nightly) in her role as Director of and counselor for the Personal Counseling Center, she also willingly and unselfishly shares her time, gifts, and talents with her colleagues and students outside her professional obligations.

In her role, she is a tireless and passionate professional who consistently puts the health and well-being of any student ahead of all else and does so void of any attachment to the normal work clock. I have seen firsthand the positive effects of her sincerity, empathy, compassion, honesty, job skills, and prudence in dealing with a student or a crisis. Her work obligations are often exhaustive and overwhelming and sometimes demand her services from morning to morning, yet, the caring nature to which she renders to the needs of the students at any time never wanes. She sets a definitive and positive example for her staff whom seems to excel under her leadership. Her skills as a person and professional along with her dedication and devotion to the students and College has allowed her to build the Personal Counseling Center into a respected and successful student affairs department and a trusted and accessible service for our students.

These attributes also define her as a co-worker. She is a trusted and caring colleague who is the first to offer assistance, support, and encouragement to her fellow student affairs professionals. She is the consummate professional and colleague who performs her job and relates to others with a sense of humility that makes her all the more effective and admired.

For these reasons and for the fact that SUNY Canton is a better institution because of her efforts, Melinda is worthy of such recognition and is an outstanding choice for the Excellence in College Service Award.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Diane J. Para'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'P' at the end.

Diane J. Para  
Program Director, Sports Management

December 29, 2010

Ms. Christa Kelson  
Chair, Recognition & Awards Committee  
SUNY Canton – FOB 405  
Canton, NY 13617

Dear Ms. Kelson:

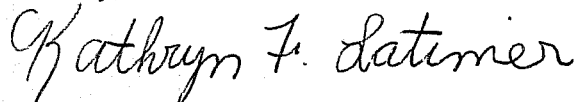
It is an honor and privilege to write a reference letter recommending Melinda Miller as recipient of the *2010 Excellence in College Service Award*. Melinda not only makes extraordinary contributions in her role as Director of Counseling at SUNY Canton, but shares her gifts, talents and expertise with others. I had the pleasure of working with Melinda from 1996 to 2005 while functioning as administrative support for the Counseling and Health Services Offices. It is there I witnessed Melinda's countless hours spent with students in crises providing support and counseling often in the middle of the night.

Today's college environment emphasizes the necessity of leaders capable of working with colleagues as a team, able to collaborate in creative endeavors, which innovate, inspire and contribute without the need to be dominant. It is this exceptional skill that Melinda brings to every venture she undertakes. It is her amazing poise and style in contributing her best to all of her endeavors, along with her commitment to her own development, which creates an environment that draws the very best from her colleagues.

Melinda not only serves as the Director of Counseling she also has served as club advisor to the Commuter Club, Peer Educators, Student government and has volunteered to assist with Summer International Program activities.

Melinda exemplifies the quality of an outstanding, dedicated leader, who possesses personal integrity and a thoughtful communication style. I admire her giving spirit, as well as the composure she radiates, no matter how demanding or pressing the situation.

Sincerely,



Kathryn Free Latimer '83  
Secretary I, Center for Lifelong Learning  
SUNY Canton – FOB 305  
34 Cornell Drive  
Canton, NY 13617  
W: 315-386-7102  
F: 315-386-7961  
<http://www.canton.edu>

*STUDENT LETTERS*

*OF SUPPORT*

*FOR*

*MELINDA MILLER*

January 10, 2011

Ms Christa Kelson  
Chair, Chair of Recognition and Awards Committee  
Faculty Office Building 416  
SUNY Canton  
Canton, New York 13617

Dear Ms. Kelson and Recognition and Awards Committee:

I would like to take this opportunity to support the nomination of Melinda Miller for the 2011 Excellence in College Service Award.

For the past year I have worked as an R.A and I have had done some amazing programs thanks to the Counseling Center but more specifically Melinda Miller. Ms. Miller keeps everything organized. Without her help the programs would not have gone as smooth as they did. If it were not for Melinda's help it would have been quite difficult to come up with these fun and educational programs. Ms. Miller goes above and beyond to help to make our jobs easier.

Melinda Miller is highly deserving of the SUNY Canton 2011 Excellence in College Service Award. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tom Titherington

Residence Assistant  
Rushton Hall

December 10, 2010

To whom it may concern,

I would like to support Melinda Miller for the Excellence in College Service Award. She deserves this award because of her hard work and commitment to her job. Melinda is a counselor and works full-time. As a student, Melinda has helped me overcome stress and has always been a great staff member. She is always in a positive mood, counsel's people that need help, and teaches a class. Melinda has helped me with my personal relationship issues and now I have a better understanding of relationships. Therefore, I believe that Melinda is a great person to get nominated for the Excellence in College Service Award.

Sincerely, Stephanie Langomas

January 19, 2011

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Melinda Miller since I met her when my mother worked with her when I was a child. I always knew that she was a very nice person and that my mom really liked her but didn't know much besides that. It wasn't until I started college in the fall of 2010 that I understood the extent of Melinda's care and dedication to the people she works with and the students of SUNY Canton.

I have personally worked with Melinda almost every day this semester. She is the advisor to the Bacchus Gamma Peer Educators and the Alpha Omega Commuter Club. She stays late on campus for activities or speakers and works closely with the College Activities Board to assist with planning events. Melinda also taught two sections of Alcohol, Drugs and Society and will teach another two in the spring semester. Melinda's vast knowledge about drugs in the college setting taught me a lot about drugs and alcohol truly affect our society. Through observation and conversation of Melinda Miller, I have seen firsthand how much she cares for and loves the college community where she works. Some people work to live, others live to work. Melinda fits the latter of the two categories with pleasure and compassion for all of those around her.

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Melinda Miller for the Excellence in College Service Award. I can think of no other person more deserving of such an award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Britney G. Livingston". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Britney Livingston

*OTHER LETTERS*

*OF SUPPORT*

*FOR*

*MELINDA MILLER*

### **Recommendation: Melinda Miller**

I highly recommend Melinda Miller for the Excellence in College Service Award. After looking at the qualifications for this award, Melinda fits all of them. As a professor of counseling at St. Lawrence University, I have had the privilege of working with Melinda on internships for SLU counseling students. Her level of professionalism is of the highest quality. She is assertive and clear when talking to colleagues and communicates all of this with authenticity and honesty. This goes along with her professional ability as the Director of Counseling at SUNY Canton. She understands the field of counseling and makes an excellent counselor in her own right. This understanding of her profession adds to her stature as a master counselor. Though I am from another college, Melinda's community service is evident in the committees and counseling oriented programs that she has sponsored. I know of some of these programs regarding such topics as conflict resolution and sexual violence on campus where Melinda acted in an innovative and professional fashion. Also, it goes without saying that Melinda Miller will continue to grow and become an even bigger part of campus activity. I believe she is just starting to grow in this area. Finally, as a licensed clinical mental health counselor, she holds the appropriate degrees and license to represent her profession. I highly recommend her.

Peter D. Ladd Ph D  
Coordinator of Advanced Studies in Counseling  
Graduate School of Education  
St. Lawrence University



January, 6, 2011

To the Faculty Assembly, Recognition and Awards  
Committee:

It is a pleasure for me to write a letter of support for Melinda Miller for an Excellence in College Service Award at SUNY Canton. Melinda is a highly skilled and dedicated counselor who is committed to providing the highest standard of service to her clients and to the campus community.

I first met Melinda when she was a graduate student in several of my classes in the Counseling and Human Development program at St. Lawrence University. Her performance as a student was in the superior range, and she enhanced the learning of other students in her classes. Upon graduation, Melinda was already advanced in her counseling knowledge and competences. For a number of years, Melinda has been a counselor and more recently the Director of Counseling at SUNY Canton. In these positions, she has brought her multiple talents to individuals, groups, and to the broader campus community. Her skills and leadership have brought a vitality and professionalism to the college counseling center.

During the period of Melinda's directorship of counseling, I have called upon her to provide field supervision of graduate counseling students from SLU. She has enabled our students to gain essential experience in working with students at the higher education level and to obtain first-rate supervision and direction. When our students graduate with an M.S. in mental health counseling, they obtain positions in the mental health field that serves individuals in the North Country and in other regions of New York State. In this way, Melinda's efforts and expertise extends beyond the SUNY Canton campus and positively affects numerous people and their families.

Thank you for your consideration, and please let me know if I may provide further information in support of Melinda receiving this deserving award.

Sincerely,

*Arthur J. Clark*

Arthur J. Clark, Ed.D.  
Professor  
Coordinator, Counseling and Human Development Program  
St. Lawrence University

This letter has been electronically signed.