Feon Smith, Administrative Assistant in Multicultural/International Programs, has been selected the Employee of the Year, according to Bill Burdette, Chairman of the Employee of the Month Selection Committee.

Smith, who lives in Huntington, has been employed at Marshall for more than three years and was the October Employee of the Month. She was nominated by Cheryl L. Cooper, a 1999 MU graduate.

Upon her selection as Employee of the Month, Smith’s supervisor, Dr. Betty Cleckley, Vice President for Multicultural and International Programs, said, “I was so enormously pleased to learn that Feon had been named Employee of the Month. I’m always interested in recognizing people who work so hard and who are very committed and very loyal to this institution. This is one way of her being recognized.”

In addition to her nomination from Cooper, three other letters of recommendation were received after her October selection.

In her letter of nomination, Cooper lauded Smith for her helpfulness with students.

“I recently completed a Yeager Scholar senior project in which I obtained funding for a lecture series through the Multicultural Programs Department. Without the assistance of Ms. Smith, I would have been unable to complete the paperwork in a timely or correct manner. She was receptive and informative, providing instructions on how to fill out forms and referring me to others that could assist me...Ms. Smith displayed a positive attitude and was always willing to answer my questions in person or over the phone.”

Writing in support of the nomination, Maria Carmen Riddel, Professor of Spanish, said Smith was of great assistance to her during the preparation for a Hispanic Cultural Awareness Week.

“She was very responsible with her duties, met all deadlines and made sure I met them as well...Her paperwork was impeccably completed...she anticipates problems and takes care of them in order to make all transactions as easy and painless as possible. In addition to being hard working and an asset to the university, she is a very discreet and friendly individual who treats everyone in a pleasant manner in spite of the pressures of her job.”

Jackie Hersman, Director of the Upward Bound Program, wrote, “As Upward Bound is under the division of Multicultural Affairs, I have frequent contact with Feon and have been most impressed. She is competent and conscientious while maintaining a demeanor that is both courteous and pleasant.”

“Feon treats all with respect and works well under pressure. The quantity and quality of her work far exceeds what is required. She is an outstanding example of a Marshall employee and a fine role model for others.”

Lorren C. Jones, Graduate Assistant for Multicultural Affairs, in supporting her selection wrote, “Besides being pleasant to work with, she is dedicated, knowledgeable, sincere and helpful...I can’t think of anyone more deserving than Feon to be awarded this honor. In addition to performing her duties as an Administrative Assistant, Feon goes beyond the call of duty with skills.”

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Feon Smith
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Jones noted Smith’s expertise in using computers and her work with the Multicultural Affairs and International Programs web site and went on to say, “In addition to her computer work, Feon is a master of organization.” She had high praise for her work on the recent Jackie Joyner-Kersee Huntington appearance.

“Throughout the entire planning process Feon remained focused, planned and conducted preparation meetings, and cheerfully attended the event which was held after her normal work hours.”

Summing up her letter of support, Jones cited Smith’s “positive and enthusiastic attitude, her willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty and her helpfulness to others....I sincerely believe, and think others would agree, that Feon serves as role model for other Marshall University employees.”

The announcement of Smith’s selection as Employee of the Year was made by President Dan Angel at a luncheon honoring the twelve monthly winners. For receiving the award, she was given a plaque and $300.
Employees of the Month for 1999-2000

November, 1999

LuAnn South
Administrative Secretary Senior, Communication Studies
Nominated by: Bert Gross

December, 1999

John Busley
Instructional Technologist, Graduate School of Management
Nominated by: Don Holdren

January, 2000

Carol Stinson
Accountant, Accounting Office
Nominated by: Larry Barnhill

February, 2000

Barbara Hicks
Administrative Assistant Senior, Academic Affairs
Nominated by: Sarah Denman
Employees of the Month for 1999-2000

March, 2000

Jeanne Adkins
Assistant Supervisor, Physical Plant
Nominated by: Joe Butcher

April, 2000

Kathy Adkins
Administrative Assistant, College of Education and Human Services
Nominated by: Larry Froehlich and Jane McKee

May, 2000

Vicki Cole
Interim Academic Advisor, College of Science
Nominated by: Ralph Taylor

June, 2000

Rachel Wright
Accounting Clerk, MU Foundation
Nominated by: Sharlee Henry and Martha Woodward

Next Issue July 28
The next regular issue of We Are...Marshall! will carry an issue date of July 28, 2000. Deadline is July 21. Send story ideas to Pat Dickson, Editor, We Are...Marshall!, 110 Administration Building, South Charleston Campus, or send by e-mail to pdickson@marshall.edu.