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Christian Sammartino

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WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES
The Corinthian Depte Golden Bow Tie

is hereby presented to

JENNIFER O'LEARY

FOR CONSISTENTLY PROVIDING EXCELLENT & COMPASSIONATE
SERVICE TO OUR WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY.

Granted on this day, twenty sixth of October, two thousand eighteen
at Francis Harvey Green Library.



Mary Page
Mary Page
Dean of University Libraries

Amy Ward
Amy Ward
Associate Dean of University Libraries

Jenn O'Leary Receives Golden Bow Tie

By Christian Sammartino

Legacies with true power and meaning make monuments that live within each of us in the form of the stories we carry. That type of legacy has deeper roots than physical monuments because it is not tied to one location. Instead, such a legacy has the opportunity to live within us and influence us for generations. I witnessed this idea in action when we celebrated the second annual Dapper Depte Day on October 26. That day was the fulfillment of a library proclamation made by Dean of University Libraries Mary Page last October to annually celebrate Corinthian's service to our campus community. This day of celebration was our promise to remember how Corinthian put others first and how he was an ambassador to so many of you in our campus community. A year to the day Corinthian Depte retired from his position as a Library Assistant, everyone who met him seems to have a story to share. Corinthian's name is synonymous with kindness, friendship, and selfless service toward others.

"He was so wonderful when the lottery was getting really big - he always made sure to get everyone in on buying a big group ticket; he would even put his own money in for you if you didn't have it that day," Interlibrary Loan Technician Jenn O'Leary said. "Then we would sit in our office and talk about what we would do with the money if we won."

Corinthian was also generous with his time and his wisdom. Shortly after I joined University Libraries as a Library Assistant 1, I told Corinthian I was getting married. He was genuinely joyful for me and wished Kelsey and me many years of health and happiness.

Corinthian also took the time to give me advice on how to be a loving partner. Corinthian has been married to his wife Marvinne for over five decades and wanted to share their life lessons with me. He encouraged me to reach out any time I needed advice or guidance.



Corinthian behind the Library Help Desk in FHG Library in 2005.

Dapper Depte Day was also a special occasion because we created a new tradition based on Corinthian's compassionate service to our community. Dean Page and Associate Dean of University Libraries Amy Ward presented the first annual Corinthian Depte Golden Bowtie recognition. This acknowledgment honors an employee who serves all of you in our WCU community with the same selflessness, dedication, and compassion that Corinthian did for over three decades. Jenn O'Leary was the first to receive this new recognition.

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"It is such an honor and such a high compliment to be compared to Corinthian because he is such a good, kind person and was so dedicated to his job here at the Library," Jenn said. "He always had a smile on his face and treated every single person with such kindness. Everyone who interacted with him remembered how he treated them. He wanted to help people; it was never an inconvenience. He got such joy from getting to know the students and from helping everyone around him here at the Library."

Jenn brings a constant attitude of kindness and compassion to the library, which never fades, even when circumstances are difficult. Jenn also brings an infectious joy and positivity to the library, which never fails to uplift those she meets. She genuinely loves helping people, which shows in the way she guides you through the Interlibrary Loan Borrowing process. She is always willing to meet with you and answer any of your questions. Jenn helps make that process understandable and less intimidating. I have seen students, who were panicked about getting a book they needed, leave her office with a sense of calm and confidence. Jenn helps connect you with what you need and helps people feel at home here at University Libraries.

"My dad has always been an incredibly positive and optimistic person and we always try to look at the glass as half full, not empty," Jenn said. "Life's too short to be negative; there's so much to be grateful for. It's been ingrained in me. In terms of compassion, you always have to try to put yourself in the other person's shoes."

"What was so profound about Dapper Depte Day is the statement it made about how we choose to impact the lives of others in our community. That University Libraries is the kind organization that sees, celebrates, and cherishes the value in every member of our community. Corinthian and Jenn's examples lovingly invite us to be present with others in a way that goes beyond simple transactional interactions. Their examples encourages us to look for ways we can make the lives of everyone who walks into University Libraries better. Simply put, people like Corinthian and Jenn compel us to be golden."



Jenn O'Leary with her Golden Bow Tie in room 613 in October of 2018.

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