

**NAME:** Betsey Waterman

**JOB TITLE:** Undergraduate Academic Advisor

**HOME DEPARTMENT:** Department of Biology

**COLLEGE OR VP AREA:** Science

**NOMINATED FOR:** President's Award for Excellence

**NOMINATED BY:** Dr. Jack A. Cranford, Dr. Joe Cowles, Mrs. Tina Pavlik

**VIRGINIA TECH HIRE DATE:** August 10, 1997

## **SUMMARY**

Betsey joined our staff 18 months ago and immediately mastered the entire curriculum requirements as well as the career options that biology majors may undertake. This alone could be overwhelming but she took it in stride along with the individual responsibility of academic advising for half of biology majors—a bit more than 500 students.

I have observed her in every aspect that the job entails and her mastery of the requirements of the University, College, and Department are such that every student gets the best and most complete advice possible. In her short time in the department, she has become so knowledgeable about our curriculum that when looking at a student's four year plan she spots prerequisite problems or course sequencing errors, which can affect the student's career objective in a negative manner.

When confronted with a procedure or policy question, she most often has the answer and if not she will get it the answer. She knows how to motivate students to seek the answers they need—she wants students to be “all that they can be”. In addition, she strives to get the students to their next level.

She is without a doubt a distinguished leader in the area of academic advising and very deserving of this award, which is only give for exceptional performance. The scope of her involvement with the student, university, and college, clearly exceeds any expectation one might have.