



**Department of Housing  
and Residence Life**

January 4, 2010

James C. Grimm Outstanding New Professional Award Selection Committee,

As a student and a Resident Assistant, I am proud to nominate Katherine Kanable to be the first recipient of the James C. Grimm Outstanding New Professional Award from the University of Central Florida. As an Apollo Resident Assistant, I am glad to say that Katherine Kanable is and has been my direct supervisor as the Area Coordinator of the Apollo Community for 18 months now. Katherine has portrayed a wide array of positive characteristics that enable her to successfully lead the Apollo community and its residents through a freshman year at the third largest university in the nation.

It has been a great working with a supervisor that successfully provides a community that feels like a second home where residents get to know and grow with one another. I often hear how residents in other universities lack a connection to fellow residents; thus I admire Katherine for leading the charge to encourage the execution of amazing large-scale programs where students not only meet residents from other buildings, but they meet students and organizations from around UCF. I admire how Katherine does not waver in motivating her Resident Assistants to complete at least two Knight-to-Knight interactions with each and every resident per semester. I admire Katherine for her flexibility of working around her Resident Assistants' schedules to hold staff meetings at inconvenient times such as Friday afternoons or on weekends. I admire Katherine for her willingness to drop everything in her office to listen to a fellow co-worker's worries even if her desk is covered with mountains of papers. I admire Katherine for overseeing the entire night shift Resident Hall and Apartment Patrols (RHAPs), especially after the major change going from many small RHAP grouped by communities to one all encompassing RHAP group better enhancing communication and scheduling. I admire Katherine's openness to ideas, complaints, and recommendations to better the community at each 1-on-1 meeting and at the end of each semester. I admire Katherine's ability to make tough, understanding, and fair decisions to keep her co-workers and residents in line to follow a path of success where others may find it easy to go astray and lose focus in such a large university setting with so many distractions. I admire Katherine's hard working determination to take care of the community matters even into the hours of the evening in the office.

Katherine Kanable has greatly helped my personal and academic growth throughout the latter part of my college career. Over the past 18 months, I have had a couple of disagreements with Katherine; however, Katherine taught me how to clearly communicate my disagreements in a respectful and effective manner. I thoroughly appreciate Katherine's openness to our feedback, and I feel like Katherine takes from our feedback to grow as a better Area Coordinator. Katherine is very understanding when it comes to dealing with our academics since Katherine understands and respects that we are students first at UCF. Through Katherine's application of SMART goals that are specific, measurable, attainable, realistic, and timely; I have noticeably increased the quality of my class work by earning higher grades. Using Katherine's advice to focus on my strengths as a person, I have cut out unnecessary and ineffective student organization involvements that have provided a hindrance to my ultimate goal of becoming a successful civil engineer. Because of these actions, I feel like the quality of my Resident Assistant job has increased along with my grades.

*U.S. News & World Report* ranks UCF in the top 50 colleges in the nation for freshmen retention. I have no doubt in my mind that Katherine Kanable has had a hand in UCF reaching this statistic. Thank you for your time and for your consideration of Katherine Kanable.

Sincerely,  
Ignacio Minana