January 11, 2010

To Gay Perez and Selection Committee:

I would like to nominate Anna L. Hobby for The James C. Grimm Outstanding New Professional Award. Anna is in her third year as a professional staff member at the University of Tennessee. She served as a Hall Director during her first two years and was promoted to an Assistant Director position for the current academic year.

Anna is an amazing staff member. In her two years as a Hall Director on our campus she quickly became a leader among her peers. She gained the respect from her peers because of her tireless work ethic and dedication to the staff and students of Morrill Hall. Anna worked hard from the beginning to get to know all of her residents by name and developing a strong staff in the building. Anna’s building housed seven learning communities and she worked closely with the academic liaison for each community. During spring semester 2009, when the Assistant Hall Director over the learning communities graduated early, Anna took on the additional role of coordinating all of their activities. This required many extra hours of working out the details for a number of events on and off campus.

Anna quickly assumed a leadership role in our department by taking on additional responsibilities. Last year, she chaired the RA Recruitment and Selection Committee. Anna’s committee worked hard to reshape the recruitment campaign and increased the number of RA applications by over 90 applicants from the previous year. Her leadership with the committee resulted in a very seamless process that allowed over 300 candidates to be processed in five days of individual interviews and group process activities. Also, Anna has served as the advisor of the Asian American Association for the past two years.

In addition, Anna has taken on additional responsibilities within our department and the SEAHO region. The University of Tennessee has been the host site for the NACURH-NSRO (National Services and Recognition Office) for the past two years. Anna has been the co-advisor for the organization for two years and she worked diligently to insure that the mission of the office is carried out. In SEAHO, she has served on the Program Committee for the past two years, presented programs and was selected to participate in RELI during the summer of 2008. At SEAHO 2008, Anna and a UT colleague won the SEAHO New Professional Case Study Competition.

If Anna is awarded the James C. Grimm Outstanding New Professional Award she will make a great Ambassador for the award and is the shining example of what a young professional should be in the housing field.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Jerry R. Adams

Associate Director