2016 President’s Extraordinary Service Award: Navigator Cassbreea Dewis

Cassbreea Dewis is frequently called upon to lead large projects as a result of her exceptional leadership skills and her ability to pull people together to work for the greater good of the university and community. In addition to her role as Governance Services Manager in the Office of the University Secretary, in the past year Cassbreea has, with Chair Annalee Lepp, managed the Working Group on Sexualized Violence Programs and Policy Development, initiated and expedited a university-wide policy renewal process, and participated in an equity structure review.

“Cassbreea’s commitment to respect, collaboration, communication and cooperation among colleagues and university constituents and her ability to understand and navigate the university community was instrumental for the Working Group,” says AVP Human Resources Kane Kilbey.

“Cassbreea treats everyone with respect and has an excellent sense of humour, which both go a long way when advancing equity and inclusion in a complex and diverse organization,” notes Mary Ellen Purkis, acting director of the Equity and Human Rights office. “She exemplifies what is sometimes called the ‘UVic way’: a highly inclusive approach to development of new initiatives. Cassbreea’s extraordinary contributions have furthered well-being for all members of the UVic community.”