

From: President Cruzado

Subject: Kayla Ouert, You Are PURE GOLD!



Kayla Ouert, you are **PURE GOLD!**

Kayla Ouert is the program manager for the WWAMI Medical Education Program on the MSU Bozeman campus. The following is her Pure Gold Award nomination submitted by her colleagues Emme Demmendaal and Martin Teintze .

While I've only experienced Kayla's impact second hand, she stands out as a Pure Gold recipient because of her dedication to WWAMI students' success - no matter what their stage in the program. Since my husband was a first-year Montana WWAMI student, I've heard students in his cohort share how Kayla is helpful and takes the time to make sure their questions and concerns are handled.



Not only is she instrumental in the day-to-day operations of Montana WWAMI and ensures that a complicated program with many moving parts runs seamlessly, she provides academic and curriculum advising, helps coordinate the many extracurricular activities the students are involved in, and is always available for sound advice and reassurance during the many stressful events and exams throughout medical school. When the coronavirus pandemic shifted so many things for the second- and first-year students, she was an essential resource for the students to shift from in-person learning to online learning. She has excelled at helping these medical students succeed by being a much needed helping hand. Her impact is felt more broadly than just the students -- I feel it too.

I think a Pure Gold recipient embodies student and community impact -- that's Kayla. She is truly an asset to Montana State and making the Montana WWAMI program a success. -Emme Demmendaal

Kayla has been doing an extraordinary job as WWAMI Program Manager. She is incredibly efficient and talented. As the only staff member here, she has to wear many hats: managing the students' enrollments at two universities, scheduling, faculty appointments, budgeting, payroll, classroom IT support, and so much more. Even with two small children in preschool and daycare, she goes out of her way to be available when the students and faculty need her. WWAMI classes are in session all year, except for 2 weeks in December and 4 weeks in the summer, and that month we are getting ready for the arrival of the next cohort of students.

Kayla is so dedicated to the success of the program, that she times all her vacations (and even her maternity leaves) to make sure that the program's needs are taken care of. On top of that, she is an MSU grad and dedicated Bobcat fan! -Martin Teintze

Congratulations, Kayla!

If you know someone who is Pure Gold, please [nominate them](#).



Waded Cruzado
President

