

# ERSO CELEBRATIONS

December 2024

*"If you think you are too small to make a difference,  
you haven't spent the night with a mosquito." – proverb*

*This month, we shine a spotlight on  
**Jennifer Stone**, ERSO's Director of  
Business & Finance Services. Thanks  
for sharing, Jennifer!*

*In 1 word, please describe what you  
do in ERSO.*

*Facilitate*

*In 2 words, please tell us about  
yourself.*

*Fun-loving, Sporty*

*You have 30 minutes to spend a  
million dollars. Where is your first  
stop?*

*Payoff my mortgage and then visit a  
travel agent*

*What advice would you give to your  
teenage self?*

*Worry less, live in the moment*

*Worst song or movie ever?*

*The Kars4Kids (donate your car  
today) jingle*

*What is your favorite junk/processed  
food?*

*Vanilla IT'S-IT*

*What question should we ask the next  
Spotlight colleague?*

*Describe your perfect weekend*



Happy Anniv**ERSO**ry

Rebecca Foster, 17 years  
Sherrell Collins, 11 years

Warmest welcome to  
**Christina Hamilton** and  
**Lauren Wolf** to our RA  
team!

Congratulations to  
**Q3's High Five**  
**Winners.** Way to go!

**Operating Principle:**  
*We focus on services*

Alberto Marcelo  
Amaya Gonzalez  
Angelica Gurrola  
Christy Welden  
Denise Ramirez  
Emily Martinez  
Esther Feng  
Jade Horder  
Joel Spitzer  
Krystle Bartholomew  
Leisa Lei  
Melissa Ellingson  
Parijat Sengupta Datta  
Vincent Ianniello



**ERSO Staff Holiday Gathering:**

**Wednesday, Dec 11<sup>th</sup>**

**5:30pm to 8:00pm**

**Il Fornaio, Walnut Creek**

Happy Birthday!!

**Ana Ditmer**  
**Dan Matsuoka**  
**Esther Feng**  
**Gina Banton**  
**Helena Gin**  
**Jennifer Stone**  
**Mary Courtney**  
**Ying Zhang**

Congratulations, **Cathy** –  
we salute you!

*"With the conversion to Multi-Factor  
Authentication (MFA) for  
research.gov, it has created some  
additional issues for RAs when  
accessing the site for faculty  
proposals. Tom Parsons was in the  
middle of a proposal when this new  
requirement took effect, and he was  
subsequently locked out of accessing  
the proposal. We were up against a  
deadline, and the NSF Help Desk was  
very backlogged so could not provide  
timely assistance. Cathy Nguyen  
graciously stepped in and assisted  
Tom in going into his PI's  
Research.gov proposal when he  
couldn't, and not only uploaded items  
for the Phoebe submission, but re-  
entered the budget and justification  
during the SPO review period and  
assisted with NSF compliance details.  
In the end, Jessie in SPO was able to  
submit by the sponsor deadline! We  
are so so grateful for Cathy stepping  
in to help. Talk about being a team  
player, being a problem solver, and  
going above and beyond! Thanks SO  
much, Cathy for volunteering to step  
in and help out."*

Your questions & feedback is welcome! Please submit it via this **anonymous form**.