

## [Good spirits](#)

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Surrounded by coworkers, Maria Villafranco, executive assistant to the vice president for the Office of Human Resources, reacts to receiving a 2018 [Tulane Spirit Award](#). Established by President Mike Fitts in 2017, the award celebrates university faculty and staff who exemplify and inspire the positive values and behaviors that define the Tulane spirit. Fitts hand-delivered the awards on Friday afternoon.





“It is really an honor to be a part of Office of Human Resources and to be recognized for the work that I do. This is really, really special,” said Maria Villafranco after receiving the Tulane Spirit Award.

President Fitts surprises Kelly Venable Carroll with the award, and a balloon bouquet. “Never in a million years did I expect this. I’m just so honored,” said Carroll, assistant vice president of customer relations and staff support in Tulane Campus Services.

Holding her award, Hope Anderson, operations assistant in the School of Professional Advancement, left, poses with President Fitts. “It really is awesome to be acknowledged for the work that you’re doing,” Anderson said. “This has been the greatest month ever.”