



Where futures begin™

December 4, 2018

Dr. Angel Royal
Chief of Staff
American Association of Community Colleges
One Dupont Circle NW, Suite 410
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Dr. Royal,

I endorse wholeheartedly Dr. Brent Knight as a candidate for membership on the AACC Board of Directors. Dr. Knight is a leader whose experience and intellect would add value to the deliberations of the Board and the advancement of the organization.

Please give his appointment to the Board greatest consideration.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alex Johnson".

Alex Johnson, Ph.D.
President

Office of the President

District Administrative Services | 700 Carnegie Avenue | Cleveland, Ohio 44115-2878
216-987-4851 | Fax 216-987-4848

Cuyahoga Community College is an affirmative action/equal opportunity institution.



Office of the President | Dr. Ken Atwater

December 17, 2018

Dr. Angel Royal
Chief of Staff
American Association of Community Colleges
One Dupont Circle, NW
Suite 410
Washington, DC 20036

Dear Ms. Royal,

I am pleased to submit this letter of support for Dr. Brent Knight. I have known Dr. Knight for twenty-five years. I have the utmost confidence in his abilities to serve on the board of directors for the American Association of Community Colleges.

Thank you for your consideration of Dr. Knight's position on the AACC board of directors that I wholeheartedly support. Please contact me at (602) 717.3335, if I can provide any additional details.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Ken Atwater', is written over a horizontal line.

Ken Atwater, Ph.D.



Dreams. Delivered.

Office of the President

December 11, 2018

Dr. Angel M. Royal
Chief of Staff
American Association of Community Colleges
aroyal@aacc.nche.edu
One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036

Dr. Royal,

It is my honor to support the nomination of Dr. Brent Knight, president of Lansing Community College, as a candidate for the AACC Board of Directors. At different times throughout my career in higher education, Dr. Knight has served as supervisor, mentor, trusted colleague and now dear friend.

After reviewing the expectations of a Board Director, I can attest that Dr. Knight is highly capable of working with other board members to provide the organizational vision, maintain high performance standards and guarantee accountability to AACC member institutions. Aligning with these standards, I offer these examples of his capabilities:

- Vision—In 2015, the Mayor of Lansing, Michigan, recognized Dr. Knight for his visionary leadership by awarding him the "Mayor's Cup for Civic Excellence."
- Excellence—Dr. Knight was recognized by *People* magazine, the *Chicago Sun-Times*, the *Chicago Tribune*, and the American Council on Education as "a national leader in higher education."
- Accountability—He initiated a unique job-training program at Lansing CC, "Get a Skill, Get a Job or Your Money Back," that was featured nationally on CNN and in *Time* magazine.

Dr. Knight became the sixth president of Lansing Community College in 2008. In 1976, at the age of 29, he was named President of Triton College in River Grove, IL, becoming one of the youngest college presidents in the nation. He also served as President of Pierce College in Tacoma, WA, and Morton College, also in Illinois.

Dr. Knight earned bachelor's and master's degrees in business administration from Ferris State University, master's degree in business and community college teaching from Western Michigan University (WMU) and a doctorate in educational leadership from WMU before becoming a visiting scholar in strategic planning at the University of Michigan. Dr. Knight was awarded an honorary doctorate of public service by Ferris State University in 2012.

Please contact me for additional information to support Dr. Knight's consideration as a member of the AACC Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mark Escamilla', followed by a long horizontal line.

Mark Escamilla, Ph.D.
President



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

2111 Emmons Road • Jackson, MI 49201-8399
517.787.0809 • www.jccmi.edu

December 13, 2018

American Association of Community Colleges
Attn: Board Committee on Directors and Membership Services
c/o Dr. Angel M. Royal
One Dupont Circle, NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20036

Attn: Board Committee on Directors

I am writing this letter in support of the appointment of Dr. Brent Knight, President of Lansing Community College, to the Board of Directors for the American Association of Community College.

I have known Dr. Knight for many years. He has decades of experience in higher education – starting first in 1976 as one of the youngest college presidents in the nation. He is my colleague in Michigan having been the President of Lansing Community College since 2008. As President, he has focused on industry partnerships through successful course programming designed to meet current workforce demands both locally and nationally. He has invested in community involvement through his work as chairman of the Board of Frederik Meijer Gardens.

Brent is both a thoughtful and innovative leader. He has transformed Lansing Community College in terms of curriculum, programming, technology, facility and student success. He is an important community college leader in the nation.

I recommend Dr. Knight to the AACC Board of Directors without reservation. Should you have any further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate contacting me at (517) 787-0807 or phelandanielj@jccmi.edu.

Sincerely,

Daniel J. Phelan, Ph.D.
President

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Bucks County Community College

275 Swamp Road

Newtown, PA 18940-4106

215.968.8000

Office of the President

December 17, 2018

Letter of Support for AACC Board of Directors – Dr. Brent Knight

Dear Colleague Presidents,

I write in support of Lansing Community College President Dr. Brent Knight's nomination to the AACC Board of Directors. Dr. Knight's lifelong commitment to community colleges is profound. He has served as president of four colleges, the first at the tender age of 29. At each institution, he brought his unique enthusiasm and desire to ensure that the colleges were accessible and student-centered.

Dr. Knight, through the years, has brought innovation in student services, facilities, new programs and student success to each college he has led. He has spread the mission of the "People's College" throughout his work. There is no aspect of community college leadership and management with which he is not thoroughly familiar and usually expert.

One area of Dr. Knight's expertise that may not be readily evident is his deep commitment to developing new leaders. His contributions to our collective sustainability are reflected in his developing and launching several community college presidents. His mentoring skills align with one of AACC's significant initiatives in identifying and fostering new leaders and he will be able to contribute significantly to this work.

Dr. Knight's passion for our work makes him an ideal candidate for the AACC Board of Directors.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Shanblatt, Ph.D.
President