



November 19, 2020

Dear AACC Committee on Directors of Membership Services:

It is with the greatest pleasure that I recommend Dr. Michael A. Cioce for your consideration as a member of your prestigious Board of Directors. I have had the honor of getting to know Dr. Cioce in his role as President of Rowan College at Burlington County and have found him to be an exemplary leader in higher education.

In all of my interactions with President Cioce, I have found him to be a tireless advocate of the work done by New Jersey Community Colleges. He is very present in the efforts of the New Jersey Community College Consortium and his insights and opinions are valued by his peers. It is clear that Dr. Cioce has an incredibly strong commitment to the mission of community colleges and interacts closely with the rest of us to advance our initiatives at the state and national level. Although Dr. Cioce strives to improve the circumstances of the institution he oversees, he does so in the context of helping the entire community college community.

Donald A. Borden
President



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I truly cannot imagine a better representative of what we are all doing and aspire to do in the years ahead. If I can answer any questions on behalf of this outstanding individual and leader, I encourage you to reach out to me at your convenience.

Yours in education,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donald A. Borden".

Donald A. Borden



November 17, 2020

AACC Committee on Directors and Membership Services
c/o Dr. Angel M. Royal
1 Dupont Circle NW, Ste 700
Washington, DC 20036.

I am writing in support of Dr. Michael Cioce's candidacy for a member of the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges. I have worked closely with Mike since he became President of Rowan College at Burlington County and strongly support his candidacy.

While Mike may be a relatively new Community College President, his dedication to the community college mission and his knowledge of issues is well established. He has provided strong leadership for state-wide initiatives and never misses an opportunity to volunteer. Even more than most states, the political waters in New Jersey can be most difficult to navigate. Mike Cioce has demonstrated that he has the savvy and skills to make an impact.

Dr. Michael Cioce will be an outstanding Director for the American Association of Community Colleges and I urge you to support his candidacy.

Sincerely,

Steven M. Rose, Ed.D.
President



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

November 18, 2020

AACC Committee on Directors
and Membership Services
c/o Dr. Angel M. Royal
Suite 700
1 Dupont Circle NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Dr. Royal:

Dr. Michael A. Cioce is a candidate for a seat on the Board of Directors of the American Association of Community Colleges. He has asked me to write a letter of recommendation for him, and I am extremely pleased to do so.

I have worked closely with Dr. Cioce on the New Jersey Council of County Colleges since he was appointed President of Rowan College at Burlington County in September 2018. Prior to that, I was aware of the good work he was doing at Rowan College at Burlington as its Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Success and as its Director of Financial Aid.

Dr. Cioce is an ideal candidate for the Board of Directors. He is deeply committed to the mission of community colleges, and he understands the vital role they play in preparing individuals for life-long learning and success. He recognizes the need to keep community colleges affordable and accessible to all students, and he understands the need to ensure AACC's strong presence as it promotes awareness and understanding throughout the country of its mission and vision in support of students.

I have had the opportunity to witness Dr. Cioce's energy and initiative as a fellow member of the Council of County Colleges. His contributions to the advancement of the Council and the New Jersey community college sector have been significant, and the strong relationships he has developed demonstrate the respect he enjoys from his colleagues. He is a listener, a communicator, and an innovator, with a passion to advance the outreach and effectiveness of community colleges. Most importantly, he is truly an advocate for the students and their success.

I am confident you would find Dr. Cioce to be an outstanding and effective member of the AACC Board of Directors. He has my highest recommendation.

If additional information is required, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Jon H. Larson, Ph.D.
President

JHL:clb

November 23, 2020

Dr. Angel M. Royal
AACC
1 DuPont Circle NW, Suite 700
Committee on Directors and Membership Services
Washington, DC 20036

Emailed to amroyal@aacc.nche.edu

Dear Dr. Royal:

It is my privilege to provide a commendation for a seat on the AACC Board on behalf of Dr. Michael Cioce of Rowan College at Burlington County (RCBC), in New Jersey. When originally appointed as interim president (2017) and subsequently president in (2018), Mike Cioce inherited a very difficult situation. His predecessor's departure created factions within the college, and the relationship with the Board and the County Freeholders (soon to be Commissioners) was seriously strained. Dr. Cioce restored credibility and integrity to the office. It should be noted RCBC had three presidents within three years prior to President Cioce's appointment.

RCBC is part of a very unique alliance with Rowan University. In this relationship, he has worked to ensure that his college, formerly Burlington County College, retains its identity while becoming part of an intriguing higher education initiative. Not only has he had to protect his college to ensure their sovereignty as a learning community remains intact, he has worked with the Rowan University administration and liaison faculty to establish the articulations necessary to substantiate the relationship. This is a very delicate and unique balance that he must address on a daily basis.

You may have some background on President Cioce, but it is unlikely to include the financial challenges which have confronted the College. In spite of external perception, Rowan University does not subsidize Rowan College of Burlington County. More importantly, RCBC has had very limited fiscal support from County government. Historically, RCBC has been grossly underfunded, yet, under President Cioce, the College is delivering a substantively successful academic program. Very few colleges in New Jersey have been as successful as RCBC in maintaining quality, enrollment, and budgetary integrity over the past five years. Under President Cioce, RCBC has done just that.

Certainly, the AACC Board will be well served to have a gentleman the quality of President Mike Cioce. The challenges and demands of Rowan College of Burlington County have seasoned him, and he has developed a repertoire of problem solving skills which we, as his colleagues admire and respect. If you have any questions you would like to raise with me, please feel free to reach out. Contact information is below.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Gorman, Ed.D.
President



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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 9, 2020

Via Email: amroyal@aacc.nche.edu

AACC Committee on Directors and Membership Services
c/o Dr. Angel M. Royal
1 Dupont Circle NW, Ste 700
Washington, DC 20036

Re: Letter of Support for Dr. Michael Cioce

It is my pleasure to provide this letter of support for Dr. Michael A. Cioce, President, Rowan College at Burlington County, as an Institutional Representative to the American Association of Community Colleges' Board of Directors. Dr. Cioce has worked in a variety of roles at Rowan College at Burlington County prior to becoming the sixth president in September 2018. Dr. Cioce's accomplishments at RCBC include enrollment increases, a new 3+1 program, increased opportunity for high school students to earn college credit and a new approach to the college's student services in terms of customer service and organizational structure. He was instrumental in the programmatic design and operation of RCBC's award-winning Student Success Center "one stop" service design. Dr. Cioce is committed to making college affordable and accessible to all students who are willing to work toward their goals.

Previously, Dr. Cioce held positions as executive director of Enrollment Management and director of Financial Aid at RCBC. Before coming to RCBC in 2010, he worked in Drexel University's Financial Aid Office.

Dr. Cioce is well respected by his peers including the presidents of New Jersey's 19 community colleges.

I am delighted to support Dr. Cioce's candidacy as an Institutional Representative to the American Association of Community Colleges' Board of Directors

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Margaret M. McMenamin'.

Margaret M. McMenamin, Ed.D.
President