



EASTERN ARIZONA COLLEGE

Todd Haynie
President

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December 11, 2023

AACC Committee on Directors and Membership Services
c/o Tammy Reichelt
1 Dupont Circle NW, Ste 700
Washington, DC 20036

Dear AACC Members,

I am pleased to express my strong support for Dr. Paul Carlsen's nomination to the 2024 AACC Board of Directors.

Since our meeting at the Harvard New President's Seminar in 2018, I have witnessed Paul's exceptional leadership at Lakeshore Technical College. He has successfully spearheaded transformative changes, securing an impressive \$26 million in grants, including the three largest in the college's history. Notably, Paul secured four NSF grants and a substantial \$1 million donation, showcasing his strategic approach to financial sustainability.

Paul's proven ability to drive change and secure critical funding makes him an ideal candidate for the AACC Board. I am confident his experience and visionary leadership will greatly contribute to the advancement of community colleges nationwide.

Thank you for considering Dr. Paul Carlsen's nomination. Please feel free to contact me for further information.

Respectfully,

Todd Haynie
President
Eastern Arizona College



AACC Committee on Directors and Membership Services
c/o Tammy Reichelt
1 Dupont Circle NW, Ste 700
Washington, DC 20036
23 December 2023

Dear AACC Members,

I am pleased to express my strong support for the nomination of Dr. Paul Carlsen to the 2024 AACC Board of Directors.

As the new president at Gateway Technical College, I have had the opportunity to collaborate closely with Dr. Carlsen, who has been a valuable source of support in navigating both the presidency and the intricacies of the Wisconsin Technical College System. Dr. Carlsen reached out to me early in my transition, offering his support and knowledge of the system.

Over the past year, Dr. Carlsen assumed the leadership of the Wisconsin President's Association and is providing guidance into the future for the group. This association plays a crucial role in advancing the strength of Wisconsin's technical colleges by promoting collaboration among the presidents of all 16 technical colleges in the state. Dr. Carlsen has already begun the work of establishing collective priorities and creating opportunities for shared efficiencies among the 16 technical colleges.

I am confident that Dr. Carlsen's collaborative mindset, dedication to innovative practices and commitment to the mission of two-year colleges make him an excellent candidate for the AACC Board. His inclusion on the board is certain to bring invaluable perspectives and contribute significantly to its endeavors.

I appreciate the opportunity to support Dr. Carlsen's candidature. Please feel free to contact me for additional information.

Sincerely,
Ritu Raju
President and CEO
Gateway Technical College

September 14, 2023

AACC Committee on Directors and Membership Services
c/o Tammy Reichelt
1 Dupont Circle NW, Ste 700
Washington, DC 20036

Dear AACC Members,

I wholeheartedly endorse Dr. Paul Carlsen's nomination to the 2024 AACC Board of Directors.

Paul and I share a passion for using social media to amplify the importance of two-year colleges. Our collaborative discussion on a YouTube show highlighted his forward-thinking approach. View our episode here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mzRKJsw-inw&pp=ygUMcGF1bCBjYXJsc2Vu>.

Paul's experience and innovative mindset make him an excellent candidate for the AACC Board, especially in elevating the visibility of community colleges.

Thank you for considering Dr. Paul Carlsen's nomination. Please feel free to contact me for additional information.

Sincerely,



Dr. Joe Gilgour
President



AACC Committee on Directors and Membership Services
c/o Tammy Reichelt
1 Dupont Circle NW, Ste 700
Washington, DC 20036

Dear AACC Members,

I wholeheartedly support Dr. Paul Carlsen's nomination for the 2024 AACC Board of Directors. As a colleague at Lakeshore, I have witnessed his transformative leadership, steering our institution from a technical college to a comprehensive community and technical college. Through Paul's leadership, Lakeshore recently added both Associate of Arts and Associate of Science programs, and has increased access and equity by transitioning key programs to Competency Based Education (CBE).

Paul's visionary approach, coupled with a commitment to professional development, played a pivotal role in my pursuit of a doctorate. He also championed my aspirations for a presidency position, reflecting his dedication to fostering leadership within our institution. His leadership and vision were a driving force for me to seek a position where I could make the transformation change, at scale, in a local technical college. Paul continues to serve as a resource for me personally as I conclude my first year as a college president.

Paul's proven track record, innovative mindset, and commitment to community colleges make him an ideal candidate for the AACC Board. I am confident he will bring invaluable insights to address the sector's evolving challenges.

Thank you for considering Dr. Paul Carlsen's nomination. Please feel free to contact me for further information.

Sincerely,

James Lemerond, Ed.D.
President
Bellingham Technical College



201 Community College Drive Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70806

December 12, 2023

AACC Committee on Directors and Membership Services
c/o Tammy Reichelt
1 Dupont Circle NW, Ste 700
Washington, DC 20036

Dear AACC Members,

I am writing to strongly endorse Dr. Paul Carlsen's nomination to the 2024 AACC Board of Directors. Paul and I have been colleagues since 2015, and our collaborative efforts have been invaluable.

Our institutions, Lakeshore Technical College and Baton Rouge Community College, are currently working together to replicate BRCC advising model at Lakeshore Technical College. This joint initiative, spearheaded by Paul, aims to minimize student handoffs and enhance the student experience.

Paul's commitment to leadership development is evident in the internal institute he established at Lakeshore, utilizing AACC lead competencies. I had the privilege of contributing to this initiative by sharing my experiences, highlighting Paul's dedication to fostering leadership within the institution.

I wholeheartedly believe Paul's collaborative mindset, leadership development initiatives, and commitment to community colleges make him an excellent candidate for the AACC Board. His inclusion will undoubtedly bring valuable perspectives to the board.

Thank you for considering Dr. Paul Carlsen's nomination. Please feel free to contact me for additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Willie E. Smith, Sr.', written in a cursive style.

Willie E. Smith, Sr., Ed.D.
Chancellor