

May 22, 2014

Dear Selection Committee,

It is my honor to recommend for your consideration a Woman of Achievement nominee for the 2014 award. Angela L. Walker Franklin is serving as the 15<sup>th</sup> President of Des Moines University. In the three short years she has been in Des Moines, she has totally immersed herself in the University, our community and working for the betterment of the State of Iowa.

If you have had the pleasure of meeting President Franklin, you know she is committed to all she does. Since her arrival at DMU, she has refined our direction as a University and has connected our University to the greater good of the community. She has done this through her volunteer work with numerous committees and boards, her leadership as the Chairperson of the American Heart Association Go Red for Women (2013 and 2014) and her selflessness of offering to share her story to inspire and encourage numerous groups and individuals.

In addition to the formal support President Franklin has offered to so many, she also stands out from the rest and as a result has been selected recently for the Inspire Aware from the Des Moines Chapter of Dress for Success, a non-profit organization offering mentoring, counseling, resources and advice to disadvantaged women. She was selected as an Iowa History Maker as the only black female selected or currently leading a medical health care institution, and it is no surprise this honor came in the short tenure she has had in our state. It is also worth noting her family of three grown sons along with her husband Thaddeus came to Des Moines with her appointment as President of DMU showing her family has put down roots in this community we all treasure.

As the Chairman of the Des Moines University Board of Trustees, it is my pleasure to join others in this nomination of Angela L. Walker Franklin as a Woman of Achievement. Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Larry Baker".

Larry Baker, D.O.  
Chair, Board of Trustees, Des Moines University