

June 4, 2015

Business Record
The Depot at 4th
100 4th Street
Des Moines, IA 50309

Re: Barbara Quijano Decker – Nomination for Women of Influence Award

Dear Business Record:

I am writing in support of the nomination of Barbara Quijano Decker for the Women of Influence award.

Barbara has served as President of Mercy College of Health Sciences since October 2005. Mercy College was originally started in 1899 as the Mercy Hospital Training School to educate nurses. It evolved from the Mercy School of Health Sciences, a certificate and diploma institution established as a consolidation of Mercy Schools of Nursing, Radiology and Emergency Medical Services in 1994. In 1995, the College was incorporated and this year, the College is celebrating its 20th year in its current form.

During Barbara's tenure as President, the College has experienced significant transformation in terms of class offerings, degrees offered and online course availability.

There are many significant internal and external challenges for institutions of higher education. Some of these challenges relate to enrollment, faculty recruitment and retention, distance education, funding, and accreditation. Through Barbara's leadership, the College has been able to successfully address these challenges and grow as an institution known for the high quality of health care education it offers.

Barbara has an outstanding relationship with the students, faculty, staff, and alumni, and has effectively promoted the College in our community. Having served on the College Board since 2009 and Chair of the Board during 2014-2015, I can attest to Barbara's effective leadership.

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I strongly recommend Barbara for the Women of Influence award.

Thank you for consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Willard L. Boyd III". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with some capitalization.

Willard L. Boyd III

WLB/lm