

# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

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Des Moines Business Record  
c/o Jason Swanson  
100 4th Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Dear Mr. Swanson,

It is with great pleasure that I submit this letter of recommendation in support of Debra Furman Pulver as a Woman of Influence. It has been an honor to be affiliated with Deb, and her husband Bob, over the years. As a 1981 graduate of the College of Design's Interior Design program, Deb has remained involved with Iowa State University through her volunteerism, philanthropy and engagement of students.

In 1998, Deb joined the dean's advisory council and began working her connections to help raise funds to support the College's Rome study abroad program. With a need to raise \$30,000, Deb assembled a dinner and auction to meet the goal. Deb and her team of volunteers not only achieved that goal, they more than doubled the funds raised bringing in \$78,000. This is just one of many ways Deb has made an impact on the students and programs at Iowa State.

Most recently Deb and Bob have committed to supporting three interior design students in their efforts to spend a semester abroad. Now in their sixth year, the Pulvers provide significant scholarship support to make this opportunity one that will advance their design efforts and provide a meaning experience. Each spring, Deb and Bob treat the three incoming and three outgoing students to dinner, listen to their stories about what they hope to learn and what they have learned. They maintain a meaningful relationship with the students who often ask Deb advice about starting their careers.

Through Deb's work with Strands of Strength, she has engaged students in the college's digital textile design studio. For the past four years, Deb has worked with professor Teresa Paschke to develop 36-inch-square scarf designs for Strands of Strength. Each year, two designs are chosen, printed on silk and distributed to Iowa women undergoing or recovering from cancer treatment. The designs are created by students in Paschke's class.

In addition to Deb's support of the College of Design, she has a strong passion for her horses and has supported the College of Veterinary Medicine through the companion animal fund.

Deb's guidance, support and encouragement at Iowa State has influenced a significant number of students and faculty over the years. The College is delighted to support her nomination for this recognition.

Sincerely,



Luis Rico-Gutierrez  
Dean