

It is with great honor I recommend Andy Verlengia for consideration into the Des Moines Business Journal 40 under 40. I am the President of Drake National Alumni Board and worked with Andy when he was a Major Gift Officer for Drake and now very closely with him in his current position as Director of Alumni Relations. I was part of the original decision to hire Andy as the Director and am pleased to report he has far exceeded the expectations we had for him.

Andy is an extremely dedicated servant who has done a tremendous job bridging the many parts of the University by coordinating a singular Alumni messaging thru the Alumni Relations Department. His engaging communication skills and high caliber personality have helped build a strong trust across the team he manages all the way up to Senior Leadership. I am confident these are the same attributes Andy has successfully employed in the many employment positions and organizations he has served in since his graduation from Drake in 2002.

This past summer Andy was a strong proponent of partnering with JOPPA and bringing the opportunity to build 3 tiny homes on the Drake campus as part of "DU Good Day." This turned into a great way for many Drake students to participate in something good for the community while working together in an organized way under Andy's leadership. The week long service was a huge success for everyone who participated.

Andy is also a strong proponent of Des Moines partnership opportunities always willing to bring the campus to the community. He is constantly involving himself with career fairs and mentorships that include future Drake graduates and Des Moines businesses. His vision has helped leverage his role to be an ambassador for the student, the alumni, and the city.

I can say without reservation Andy is a fantastic representative of Drake University and the City of Des Moines. It is my honor to recommend Andy Verlengia for this year's 40 under 40.

Sincerely,

John V Miller
Drake University Alumni Board President

Managing Director
Piper Jaffray