

Chelsea Petree, Ph.D.
President, Board of Directors
AHEPPP: Family Engagement in Higher Education
4409 Hoffner Avenue #324
Orlando, FL 32812

September 19, 2023

Dear Dr. Petree:

This letter is written in support of Missy Mathis-Hanlon's application for membership on the Board of Directors of AHEPPP: Family Engagement in Higher Education. As you know, Missy is a longtime member and supporter of AHEPPP and a previous AHEPPP award recipient. She currently serves on the Awards Committee.

Missy is a relationship-builder, can balance several large projects at once, and serves as an advocate for and supporter of Syracuse University families on a regular basis. Her awareness of current trends and realities in higher education and her ability to think creatively and innovatively to provide excellent communication and service that meet and exceed the needs of families will translate well into service on the Board of Directors. She is willing and able to dive into an issue and explore it for information and opportunity. One example of this is Missy's selection as a co-chair of our Student Experience Strategic Planning Steering Committee last summer. Her experience and broad knowledge of our division, other areas within the University, and the global landscape was key to providing successful leadership to that group.

Missy has long centered diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility in her work. She was an early advocate of the creation of a Rainbow Task Force that led to the development of the LGBT Resource Center on campus and she received a NASPA grant to focus on learning more about historically underrepresented families at Syracuse. For many years, Missy has participated in an effort called Project Transition --a Family Weekend program serving the families of students in the New York State Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program (HEOP), the Federal TRIO Student Support Services program and Syracuse's Kessler Scholars. Missy's goal is to work collaboratively to

expand that program to offer year-round family engagement programs and to help find sustainable resources for it.

Given her breadth of experience and commitment to her professional goals, I believe Missy would be a great asset to the AHEPPP Board of Directors. She has my full support, including institutional financial and other resources, to participate in regular board meetings and to attend two in-person board meetings per year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sheriah N. Dixon". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, prominent initial "S" and "D".

Sheriah N. Dixon
Dean of Students