

July 14, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Didi Hanlein and I am writing today to support Dr. Willie May's recommendation for the position of President-Elect of the American Chemical Society. I have had the pleasure of working directly with Dr. May for over 6 years. We worked together to hire the brightest and the best candidates for our Senior Executive Service and Scientific and Professional positions.

For nearly 20 years, I have worked in Human Resources and in all my years of experience, I have never met someone who possesses the numerous, first-class qualities that Dr. May emulates. Willie is well known for his leadership style, intelligence, work ethic, sense of fairness, mentoring and great personality. He is well respected too. I have a deep respect for him because he was so approachable and down to earth. Being the head of an organization, I knew he was extremely busy, but when I needed to meet with him or talk with him about a human resource matter, he was always available and approachable, even when on travel out of the country! It always amazed me how he could juggle so many roles at once.

Willie and I had the opportunity to meet many times over the past several years and sometimes we disagreed on a path forward or solution. But what I remember about those meetings was his open-mindedness and fairness. He was always willing to listen and I was able to make my case. And sometimes he would change his mind! Even though he was a high-level leader, I never felt intimidated or scared to approach him because of his easy-going manner.

Willie is a great person who is dedicated, energetic, smart and hard-working. It is rare to find an individual who has such wonderful qualities, scientific expertise and the skill to lead - Willie is that person! He would truly be an asset in the position of President of the American Chemical Society! Thank you.

Sincerely,



Didi Hanlein
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