



OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF RELIGION

March 6, 2017

Dr. Stephen W. Pilgrim
Overseas Director of Doctoral Programs
Faculty of Administrative Sciences
University of Montemorelos
Montemorelos, Nuevo Leon, Mexico

Dear Dr. Pilgrim:

I pray that you are basking in the abundance of God's blessings as you fulfill your ministry at Montemorelos. Indeed, it is only by His grace that I write to support Pastor Donald Paul's application to undertake a doctorate in business administration at your esteemed institution.

When Pastor Paul asked me to write a recommendation, I looked through my files and was reminded that I first filled such a request for him in January, 2001! At that time, I described him as "a conscientious student who always attends class and consistently performs at a high academic level." I further opined that "he has a pleasant personality and appears to have a bright and successful future before him."

Following his days as my student at Oakwood University, Pastor Paul went on to further distinguish himself at the Seventh-day Adventist Theological Seminary at Andrews University, where he completed a Master of Divinity degree. Since then, he has been successfully engaged in pastoral ministry with the Southeastern Conference.

Although Pastor Paul serves in pastoral ministry, I am not at all surprised that he is seeking a doctorate in business administration. This is fully in character with the student I came to respect—one with a critical and inquiring mind who understands the importance of leadership skills in a complex organization that continually needs the service of competent spiritual leaders.

Should you grant him this opportunity, it will not take long for you to see that Pastor Paul will be a positive asset for Montemorelos as he eagerly digests your offerings while contributing to the overall ethos of the institution. As I declared in the first ever recommendation I wrote for Pastor Paul, "I unreservedly recommend him for [admission to your institution] and trust that you will help him achieve his goals.

Sincerely,

Keith Augustus Burton, PhD
Associate Professor of New Testament.

Education • Excellence • Eternity