

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter of recommendation on behalf of Dr. Dee Stokes, an extraordinary African American female educator who has made a significant impact in the fields of education, ministry, and leadership. I have had the privilege of knowing Dr. Stokes for 15 years, and during this time, I have witnessed her unwavering commitment to her Christian beliefs and values, her exceptional educational background, and her remarkable ability to work with individuals from all walks of life.

Dr. Stokes is a trailblazer in the field of education, holding an impressive array of degrees that reflect her dedication to academic excellence and leadership. She possesses a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology from UNC Charlotte, a Master of Public Administration from DeVry University, and a Master of Biblical and Theological Foundations from Asbury Theological Seminary. In addition to these accomplishments, she has earned both an Education Specialist (Ed.S.) and a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Educational Leadership from Liberty University. Her commitment to lifelong learning is evident through her online certificate in Theology and Ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary and her studies in Pentecostal Theology at Global University.

Dr. Stokes's educational journey is a testament to her passion for expanding her knowledge and using it to make a positive impact in her community and beyond. Her research interests in areas such as emotional intelligence, cultural intelligence, transformational leadership, burnout, and unconscious bias demonstrate her dedication to addressing critical issues in education and leadership.

Beyond her academic achievements, Dr. Stokes is a devoted follower of Jesus Christ, and her Christian beliefs are at the core of her work and interactions with others. She has served as a pastor, both as an Associate and Lead Pastor, at Unity UMC in Thomasville, NC, where she focused on spiritual formation, community relations, and leadership development. Her leadership as the first Black person to serve as Pastor in Unity's history is a testament to her ability to break down barriers and bring people together.

Dr. Stokes's commitment to her Christian faith extends to her role as the former Director of Multicultural Ministry for the NC East District and her current position as the Teaching Pastor at Christ Wesleyan in Greensboro, NC. She also serves as the Director of the Seeds Project for Luther Seminary's Faith + Lead innovation team, where she incubates and accelerates entrepreneurial ministry innovators who focus on living out the Gospel practically.

In her almost 30 years of experience in higher education, Dr. Stokes has worn many hats, from being a basketball coach and professor to serving as a school administrator. Her ability to connect with athletes, coaches, and students from diverse backgrounds is a testament to her cultural intelligence and leadership skills. She has taught and mentored countless individuals, making a lasting impact on their lives and careers.

Dr. Stokes's dedication to her community is further demonstrated through her involvement in various boards and organizations, including Reliant Mission and the UNC Charlotte Alumni Board of Directors. She is a true advocate for positive change and leadership development.

I wholeheartedly recommend Dr. Dee Stokes as an exceptional educator, leader, and minister. Her impressive educational background, unwavering Christian faith, and ability to work effectively with individuals from all backgrounds make her a remarkable asset to any institution or organization. Dr. Stokes is not only a beacon of inspiration but also a driving force for positive change and transformation. She is authentic, clear-minded, and decisive—she would be a strong addition to any faculty or staff.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions or require additional information regarding Dr. Dee Stokes.

Sincerely,

Carlos Campo, Ph. D.

President, Ashland University

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