



MOHAWK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

1101 Sherman Drive
Utica, New York 13501-5394
www.mvcc.edu

Vice President for Administrative Services
315-792-5444
Fax 315-792-5678

To: Promotion Committee

From: Thomas G. Squires
VP for Admin Services

CC Aaron Fried

Date: October 1, 2021

Re: Letter of support for promotion of Aaron Fried

I write in support of promotion for Aaron Fried. I have worked with Aaron tangentially during my eight-plus years at the College and have worked very closely with Aaron since 2019. Aaron has always demonstrated exemplary work ethic and commitment to the mission of the College in my interactions with him.

Aaron has been in the role of lead negotiator for the Professional Association and I have been in the role of lead negotiator for the College since 2019. During that time I have had the pleasure of working closely with him and getting to know him better. This past negotiation began prior to the pandemic and lasted longer than it otherwise would have as we all worked remotely. He and I maintained close contact throughout this period, providing updates to one another and ensuring we were positioning our respective Teams for fruitful meetings once we returned to active negotiating. As I write this we now have a tentative agreement pending final approval by the College Board of Trustees and County Legislature. There is no doubt that Aaron's leadership, hard work and willingness to work as a partner led to this outcome. It is noteworthy that we have gotten to the point of a tentative agreement at the negotiating table without direct involvement by the Professional Association and College Presidents, something that has not been accomplished in quite some time.

I have also worked with Aaron through the Guided Pathways Council. I have seen firsthand his dedication to students and student success. His work on the Council has led to significantly better outcomes for students.

He has also earned many awards and citations over the years, such as the Heart of the Hawk, Excellence in Faculty Service, the Altitude Award, the Eye of the Hawk award and the Chancellor's award for Excellence in Faculty Services. All of these achievements show his dedication.

In summary, I am honored to support Aaron in his promotion and believe he has more than earned it.