Ian Baker
Nike, Inc.
One Bowerman Drive
Beaverton, OR 97005
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Dean Mitzi Montoya
College of Business
Oregon State University

Dean Montoya,

This letter is to offer my full support and endorsement of the Oregon State University Supply Chain and Logistics Management Masters in Business Administration. The subject matter is so important in our global economy that I feel it is not only an honor and privilege to promote the programs expansion into Portland, but also my responsibility as a member of the industry and employee of Nike, Inc.

I have had a varied career that spans management, customer service, sales, and since 2015, supply chain at Nike, Inc. What has been evident in every function was the importance of supply chain management and that no matter what you do today, you rely on a global system to meet your objectives. I'm a proud graduate of the OSU Global Operations MBA program and I attribute my success at Nike to the lessons learned and connections made in the course of my education. I am thrilled to see this program evolve into the Supply Chain and Logistics Management MBA that is offered today.

What is unfortunately lacking in supply chain at Fortune 500 companies is a talent pool that is prepared for the complexities in modern supply chain management. Nike, for example, has recruiting teams that focus a tremendous amount of effort on students from MIT, Michigan State, or Penn State. The problem is they have not seen the benefit of a world class program here in the PNW. The faculty at Oregon State University is world class, and the lessons I took regarding supplier relations from Professor Wu are ones that have made me very successful in a short period of time. This success is not standard across recruits from other institutions.

Expanding the OSU SCLM MBA to Portland offers many advantages for the talented professional students who will enroll, and for local companies like Nike who are in need of fantastic educational opportunities for employees, as well as the next generation of supply chain leaders. If I can offer one anecdote about the demand from students it is that I have had two Nike employees, and my own mother come to me to discuss MBA programs in the state, but all ended up selecting Portland State based on the programs convenience of location and service rather than educational merit. The Portland business community needs expanded programs from Oregon State University.

Sincerely,

Ian Baker

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