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Merrill Lynch

Page 001



## FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

**TO: Austin Smith**  
**PHONE:**  
**FAX: 18037345167**

**FROM: Merrill Lynch**  
**SENDER: Sarah Cunningham**  
**DATE: Thu Dec 3 11:06:14 EST 2015**  
**PHONE: 313-594-9226**  
**FAX: 13133343239**

**No. of Page(s) (including this page): 7**

**Subject:**

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*Sarah Cunningham*

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**From:** Cunningham, Sarah J - DEARBORN MI  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 03, 2015 11:05 AM  
**To:** Cunningham, Sarah J - DEARBORN MI  
**Subject:** Email From Sarah\_cunningham@ml.com

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FAX 803 734-5167

ATTENTION: MR. AUSTIN SMITH

DATE: 12/1/15

PAGES: 4

Please find attached an invitation for Governor Haley regarding an honorary degree. My cell phone is: 810-407-3970 should you wish to contact me. The attached material is ready to email if you would provide an address. Please email me at: [jhelmuth@umflint.edu](mailto:jhelmuth@umflint.edu) or via my cell to confirm receiving the fax transmission. Thank you.

John Helmuth

Dear Mr. Smith,

I have attached a letter that invites Governor Haley to receive an Honorary Doctor of Philosophy degree from Alliance University in Bangalore, India, at the 2016 annual convocation. Details are provided in the invitation. The faculty and administrative driven invitation has a citation (attached) that reads in part:

Governor Haley's various accomplishments are more than sufficient to recommend her for an honorary Ph.D. However, her leadership in combating domestic violence, protecting both women and children, is exemplary. In that regard, and given the Alliance campus commitment to women's rights and safety, as reflected by The Alliance Center for Women Empowerment, Governor Haley would be an auspicious recipient for an honorary Ph.D. from Alliance University.

Would you please bring this invitation to Governor Haley's attention on our behalf? Colleagues at USC recommended that I contact you with this request. I am a USC graduate also, having received my economics Ph.D. in 1981. I have attached my academic CV.

The date of the convocation is December 17, 2016. If this date is not convenient for her schedule, then we would be equally honored to bestow the degree to her anytime in during the academic year, when Governor Haley can visit the campus. The university will cover all of her costs (and those of a companion). Bangalore also provides many opportunities for the governor to connect with regional businesses, should she decide to include economic outreach on behalf of South Carolina during her visit. Our university may suggest contacts for her.

I would be pleased to discuss this invitation with you or with Governor Haley. My cell phone number is: 810-407-3970. Also, I will be at Alliance University from December 13-24. We could arrange a Skype call that would include me and Chancellor Madhukar Angur if you would like.

Thank you in advance for your efforts. They are sincerely appreciated.

Best wishes,

John Helmuth



The UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN-FLINT  
School of Management

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November 29, 2015

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley  
Office of the Governor  
1205 Pendleton Street  
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

Dear Governor Haley:

It is my great pleasure to invite you to receive an Honorary Doctor of Philosophy degree from Alliance University in Bangalore, India, at the 2016 annual convocation ceremony held on December 17, 2016. Should that date not be convenient with your schedule, we can bestow the degree anytime during that academic year, when you can visit the campus. Past recipients in 2014 included Nobel Laureate Mr. Kailash Satyarthi and Padma Bhushan Smt. Rajashree Birla.

The invitation to receive the Honorary Doctorate is both an administrative and faculty driven initiative, reflecting not only the many accomplishments during your career but also your championing of women's rights. The formal citation (attached) in part reads:

Governor Haley's various accomplishments are more than sufficient to recommend her for an honorary Ph.D. However, her leadership in combating domestic violence, protecting both women and children, is exemplary. In that regard, and given the Alliance campus commitment to women's rights and safety, as reflected by The Alliance Center for Women Empowerment, Governor Haley would be an auspicious recipient for an honorary Ph.D. from Alliance University.



It is my hope and that of Chancellor Madhukar Angur, the faculty and over 8,000 Alliance students that you will accept our invitation. I am extending this invitation as a member of the Board of Governors of Alliance University. I am also a proud alum of the University of South Carolina, from which I received my doctorate in economics in 1981.

I look forward to your response.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John A. Helmuth". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name.

John A. Helmuth, Ph.D.,  
Professor of Finance



## **Nikki R. Haley**

### **Governor of South Carolina**

Nikki Randhawa Haley was re-elected Governor of South Carolina in November, 2014 by the largest margin of victory for a South Carolina gubernatorial candidate in 24 years. Governor Haley, the first female and the first minority governor in South Carolina history, is also the youngest governor in the United States.

Governor Haley has been a tireless reformer of South Carolina's education system, as well as, tax reform. She has been a remarkable leader in developing the state's economy. The Governor is often mentioned as a future potential republican presidential or vice presidential candidate. She is particularly proud of her Indian heritage, and is the daughter of Indian immigrants. She is the author of, *Can't Is Not an Option: My American Story*.

Governor Haley's various accomplishments are more than sufficient to recommend her for an honorary Ph.D. However, her leadership in combating domestic violence, protecting both women and children, is exemplary. In that regard, and given the Alliance campus commitment to women's rights and safety, as reflected by The Alliance Center for Women Empowerment, Governor Haley would be an auspicious recipient for an honorary Ph.D. from Alliance University.

