

December 1, 2025

Dear Ed and Aline Patane Scholarship Committee,

It is my absolute pleasure to recommend Neil Foley for the Ed and Aline Patane Scholarship. As Neil's professor and the director of the Business Honors Program, I have had the opportunity to work closely with him over the past year. His outgoing personality, dedication, leadership, and constant drive to support and uplift others make him an ideal recipient of this scholarship.

Neil is a highly self-motivated individual who consistently strives for excellence and continuous self-improvement. As his professor in Professional Development I and II, I have witnessed his enthusiasm for learning and strong work ethic firsthand through his coursework and active participation in class discussions. As one of 21 students in his Business Honors Program cohort, Neil is actively working on his professional development. He continually supplements his classroom learning by pursuing professional certifications, attending career fairs, and participating in professional development opportunities on campus through the Bellini Center.

Outside the classroom, Neil exemplifies leadership and commitment to service. As a key member of the University of South Florida's Investment Club Financial Planning Team, Neil leads his team to develop detailed client reports and then present their findings competitively. His analytical nature and attention to detail have been invaluable to the team's success. His involvement in the Investment Club is even more impressive, as it demonstrates his ability to balance a demanding workload in addition to classes and other extracurriculars.

Neil has also demonstrated strong leadership within the professional co-ed business fraternity Phi Chi Theta. Serving as Vice President of his pledge class, he successfully coordinated a fundraising initiative that raised over \$2,500 to aid hurricane relief efforts in Florida. Because of his strong organizational skills and dedication, Neil quickly advanced to become the Fundraising Chair of the entire fraternity, organizing events at Funds2Orgs, Blaze Pizza, Chipotle, and Advent Center Ice Skating. He has also played an essential role in supporting the growth of Mu Nu Upsilon, a newly established professional business fraternity specializing in financial planning, by contributing to marketing efforts and expanding its campus presence. Neil is also a cherished member of the Bulls Business Community, where he has had the opportunity to strengthen business and communication skills through company tours, networking and improv workshops.

For all these reasons, I give my highest recommendation for Neil Foley for this scholarship. I am confident he will continue to excel academically and professionally and be a positive force within the University and his future career.

Respectfully,

April Bailey

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MUMA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

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