



CONNECTICUT COLLEGE

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
270 MOHEGAN AVENUE
NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT
06320-4196

January 6, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
152 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC, 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley,

As the current and former presidents of Connecticut College, we write together today in full support of President Barack Obama's nomination of Debo P. Adegbile as Assistant Attorney for Civil Rights at the Department of Justice. Mr. Adegbile is an alumnus of Connecticut College who currently serves with distinction as a member of the College's Board of Trustees. As a trustee, Mr. Adegbile chairs the Trustee-Faculty Liaison Committee and is a member of both the Committee on Student Life & Enrollment Design and the Executive Committee. In these committee settings, Mr. Adegbile is relied upon for his long-time knowledge of the College culture, his legal expertise, and his dedication to promoting and upholding the long-term value of a Connecticut College education.

Mr. Adegbile's leadership at Connecticut College stems from his undergraduate years when he was a member of the men's soccer team, volunteered in the local community through the Office of Volunteers for Community Service, and was involved in student government and athletics advisory boards. As a student, he also worked as an intern at New London High School and the New London Public Defender's office. At his Commencement ceremony in 1991, Mr. Adegbile was awarded the Anna Lord Strauss Medal in recognition of his outstanding work for the College and for the local community.

Since his graduation from Connecticut College in 1991, and his subsequent graduation from the New York University School of Law in 1994, Mr. Adegbile has served Connecticut College as a distinguished speaker and panelist, as a member of the pre-law advisory committee and young alumni committee and as a class agent. He has generously provided advice and mentoring to students who are interested in law careers, and has encouraged students to ardently pursue their goals. Most recently, he served as a member

of the College's Presidential Search Committee that selected Katherine Bergeron to succeed Leo I. Higdon as president of Connecticut College.

In every interaction he has with the greater Connecticut College community—trustees, alumni, parents, students, faculty, staff—Debo Adegbile has proven to be a man of honor, of principle and of great personal integrity. With his brilliant legal mind and his broad experience with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., the nation's leading civil rights legal organization, he will be an outstanding leader in the Department of Justice who will uphold the nation's commitment to the civil and constitutional rights for all Americans. We support without hesitancy the nomination of Debo P. Adegbile as Assistant Attorney for Civil Rights at the Department of Justice.

Sincerely,



Katherine Bergeron
President (Jan. 1, 2014-present)
Connecticut College



Leo I. Higdon, Jr.
President (July 1, 2006-Dec. 31, 2013)
Connecticut College