



Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges

2101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 302
Arlington, Virginia 22201
703.247.4212
703.247.4533 fax
www.accsc.org

Important Announcement **Nominating Committee Special Election**

Thank you to those that voted in the recent ACCSC Nominating Committee election. That election, however, resulted in a tie for the highest number of votes cast for two of the candidates. A tie vote has remarkably not happened previously, and the *ACCSC Bylaws* do not address this circumstance. As such, in an abundance of fairness and transparency and pursuant to *Section 1.09 (b)(i)(3)* and *Section 2.07* of the *ACCSC Bylaws*, ACCSC will conduct a special run-off election beginning on **September 29, 2026** and ending on **October 6, 2026** to fill the one (1) vacant seat on the Nominating Committee.

The election run-off candidates follow with a hyperlink to each individual's nomination form and resume.

- **Paul Fitzgerald** – Erie Institute of Technology
- **Mollie Ludwig** – Blue Cliff College

Electronic Election Instructions

On **September 29, 2026**, each ACCSC-accredited member institution will receive an e-mail from ACCSC with a website link and login instructions to cast its vote in the School Commissioner Election. ***Each member shall have one vote, except that a group of affiliated schools – i.e., schools under common ownership – may have no more than five total votes regardless of the number of members in the group.*** The candidate receiving the highest number of votes will be considered elected to serve the two-year term ending June 30, 2028 on the ACCSC Nominating Committee.

Please contact Michelle Ragland, Associate Director of Commission Affairs, at mragland@accsc.org with any questions regarding the electronic balloting process.



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ACCSC NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Nominee Information:

Name: Paul Fitzgerald

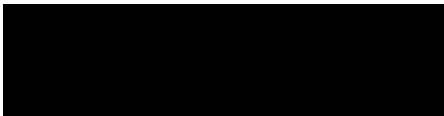
Title: CEO

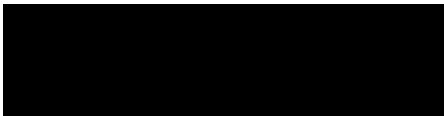
School: Erie Institute of Technology

ACCSC School Number: M000024

Address: 940 Millcreek Mall

City, State, Zip: Erie PA 16565

Phone: 

E-Mail: 

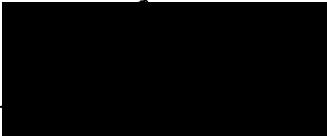
Corporation Name: Erie Institute of Technology

I am a (✓ all that apply):

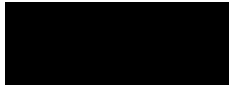
- ☐ Appeals Panel Member
- ☒ Team Leader
- ☐ ACCSC Committee Member

- ☒ Executive/Manager of an ACCSC-accredited School
- ☐ Former ACCSC Commissioner
- ☒ Other – Please specify - Nominating Committee Member / Progress Committee Member

I attest that I have no affiliation with any school represented by a sitting ACCSC Commissioner and that all information submitted with this nomination is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge & belief.



Signature



Date



ERIE INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

June 19, 2026

Ms. Michelle Ragland
Associate Director of Commission Affairs
Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges
2101 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 302
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Dear Ms. Ragland:

Please accept this letter as confirmation of interest to serve as a member of the ACCSC Nominating Committee.

I have attached my resume which details my qualifications. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

A large black rectangular box redacting the signature of Paul Fitzgerald.

Paul Fitzgerald
Chief Executive Officer
940 Millcreek Mall
Erie PA 16565

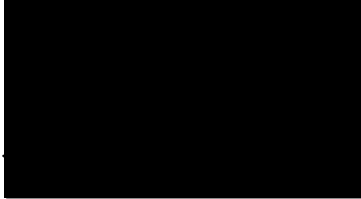
A black rectangular box redacting contact information, likely a phone number or email address.



A list of all ACCSC-accredited institutions with whom the nominee is affiliated:

- **Erie Institute of Technology**

Paul Fitzgerald



Professional Experience

Erie Institute of Technology / 2005 - Present

Chief Executive Officer (2021 – Present)

Campus President / Director (2005 – 2021)

- Establish and implement short-term and long-term organizational goals, objectives, policies, and operating procedures.
- Develop and manage annual business plans (quarterly, annually) while performing monthly cost and productivity analysis.
- Plan, develop, and implement fiscal strategies for generating resources and/or revenues.
- Monitor and evaluate program effectiveness while implementing changes required for improvement. Specifically, the schools skilled trades programs (Electrician, HVAC/R Technician, Welding), manufacturing programs (CNC Machining, Industrial Maintenance), electronics programs (Electronics Technician, Medical Equipment Technician), computer programs (IT, Web Design), and medical/business programs (Phlebotomy Technician, Administrative Professional).
- Assure compliance with Pennsylvania Department of Education regulations, US Department of Education regulations, and the Accrediting Commission of Career School and Colleges (ACCSC) Standards of Accreditation.
- Design, establish, and maintain an organizational structure to effectively accomplish the organization's goals and objectives.
- Recruit, employ, train, supervise, and evaluate staff.
- Implement and direct programs and services that increase student retention.
- Provide administrative coordination, support, and advice to student support programs, such as peer counseling, peer tutoring and student counseling.
- Represent the school in negotiations with businesses, government agencies, and funding agencies.
- Supervise the development of school policies and procedures.
- Supervise and provide operational problem solving.
- Evaluate all programs and oversee quality assurance.
- Oversee agency reporting.
- Directly supervises the Director of Education, Director of Manufacturing, Career Services Coordinator, Financial Aid Administrator, Admissions Representatives, and all support staff.
- Supervise the development of new programs.

The Triangle Tech Group / 1991 – 2005

Vice President (2001 – 2005)

- Directly supervise, train, mentor, and advise Campus Directors in all aspects of school management procedures.
- Work closely with executive leadership to ensure a proactive approach addressing issues affecting our schools.
- Monitor the day-to-day operations of the corporation's five (5) schools to assure a high level of education, quality, and continuing improvement.
- Assure compliance with Pennsylvania Department of Education regulations, US Department of Education regulations, and the Accrediting Commission of Career School and Colleges (ACCSC) Standards of Accreditation.
- Conduct school wide audits to evaluate overall effectiveness of academic practices, curriculum, educational support services and facilities.
- Review all program curricula, required course plans, course syllabi, lesson plans, and related materials to assure instructional objectives are being met.
- Monitor education departments at each school and coordinate with School Director.
- Monitor student retention at each school and assist School Directors in development and implementation of improvement programs.
- Develop, oversee, schedule, and conduct continuing training programs for new School Directors and Assistant School Directors.
- Develop and coordinate all new program development at all campuses.
- Oversee and coordinate all in-service training.
- Conduct group training for implementation and coordination of corporate policies and procedures.
- Provide assistance to Campus Directors for training of faculty.

School Director (1994 -2001)

- Serve as Chief Administrative Officer of Triangle Tech- Erie.
- Serve as Administrative Supervisor to all personnel assigned to the school.
- Assure normal operations of the school on a daily basis.
- Assure the course content and instructional methods are in accordance to established school policy.
- Assure that the day- to-day operations of the school are in compliance with state regulations, federal regulations, and accrediting commission standards.
- Directly oversee and manage all business functions relating to the school.

Admissions Representative (1991 – 1994)

- Responsible for setting appointments, interviewing, touring, enrolling, and advising prospective students who are interested in the programs offered at Triangle Tech.

The Transult Company / 1988 - 1991

Sales Coordinator (1990 – 1991)

- Manage and provide sales support to representatives in the sales department.

Sales Representative (1988 – 1990)

- Qualify business prospects through a strategic organizational plan.
- “Close the Sale” while consistently increasing company revenue.

Professional Affiliations**Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC)**

- *School of Distinction: 2024*
- *Outstanding Volunteer: 2023*
- *Nominating Committee Member: 2022 – Present*
- *School of Excellence: 2017*
- *Appeals Panel Member: 2015 – Present*
- *Progress Committee Member: 2010 – Present*
- *Team Leader: 1997 – 2005, 2025- Present*

Pennsylvania Department of Education

- *State Board of Private Licensed Schools / Board Member: 2003 – 2005, 2011 - 2018*
- *Bureau of Postsecondary Services / Team Leader: 2000-2001*

Pennsylvania Association of Private School Administrators (PAPSA)

- *Nominating Committee Member: 2010 - 2011*
- *Board Member: 2000 – 2005*

Education**Edinboro University / Bachelor of Arts**

Edinboro, Pennsylvania

1983 – 1988

Central Catholic High School / Academic

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

1979 – 1983



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ACCSC NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Nominee Information:

Name: Mollie Ludwig
Title: President
School: Blue Cliff College
ACCSC School Number: M070163, B070390
Address: 12251 Bernard Parkway
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____
E-Mail: _____
Corporation Name: Brent L. Mills, Inc/Education Management, Inc.

I am a (✓ all that apply):

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Appeals Panel Member | ☒ Executive/Manager of an ACCSC-accredited School |
| ☒ Team Leader | ☐ Former ACCSC Commissioner |
| ☐ ACCSC Committee Member | ☐ Other – Please specify _____ |

I attest that I have no affiliation with any school represented by a sitting ACCSC Commissioner and that all information submitted with this nomination is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge & belief.

Date

Nomination Submission Requirements

Please return this form along with the items below in one continuous PDF document to the attention of Michelle Ragland at mragland@accsc.org **no later than July 31, 2026:**

- A statement of interest indicating the nominee's qualifications and why the nominee wishes to serve on the Nominating Committee;
- A list of all ACCSC-accredited institutions with whom the nominee is affiliated; and
- A current résumé.

A. Statement of Interest – ACCSC Nominating Committee

I am honored to submit my interest in serving on the ACCSC Nominating Committee. Having dedicated more than 25 years to career education and accreditation, I believe I can contribute meaningful insight into the leadership qualities, governance experience, and commitment to student success necessary for effective service to the Commission and the broader ACCSC community.

My professional background spans nearly every aspect of postsecondary education, including admissions, financial aid, academics, student services, campus operations, compliance, and executive leadership. I currently serve as President of Blue Cliff College and previously held executive leadership positions as Vice President of Corporate Compliance, Vice President, Executive Director, Campus Director, and Compliance Director. Throughout my career, I have worked closely with accrediting agencies, state regulators, and institutional leaders to promote educational quality, accountability, and continuous improvement.

My commitment to ACCSC spans nearly two decades. I have served as an ACCSC Team Leader since 2007, was recognized as ACCSC Volunteer of the Year in 2008 and served as a Commissioner and member of the Board of Directors from 2015 to 2019, including serving as Chair of the Commission during my final year. In addition, I served as ACCSC's Volunteer Coordinator, responsible for recruiting, training, and supporting the Commission's volunteer network. These experiences have provided me with a deep understanding of ACCSC's mission, governance structure, accreditation standards, and the importance of strong volunteer leadership.

I wish to serve on the Nominating Committee because I believe effective governance begins with identifying and developing leaders who are committed to integrity, educational quality, and service to students. The Commission's strength depends on dedicated volunteers who bring diverse perspectives, sound judgment, and a genuine commitment to advancing career education. I would welcome the opportunity to help identify and encourage qualified individuals who can contribute to ACCSC's continued success and uphold the high standards expected of its leadership.

I am grateful for the opportunities ACCSC has provided throughout my career and would be honored to continue giving back through service on the Nominating Committee. My experience as an educator, administrator, commissioner, team leader, and volunteer has prepared me to thoughtfully evaluate candidates and support the Commission's ongoing mission of promoting excellence in career education.

Thank you for your consideration.

B. A list of all ACCSC-accredited institutions with whom the nominee is affiliated; and

Blue Cliff College (070390)
12251 Bernard Parkway
Gulfport, MS 39503
www.bluecliffcollege.edu

Blue Cliff College (070163)
3908 Veterans Memorial Boulevard, Suite A
Metairie, LA 70002

Blue Cliff College (072108)
1505 Metro Drive Suite I
Alexandria, LA 71301

Southern Technical College (073165)
450 Havendale Blvd.
Auburndale, FL 33823
www.southerntech.edu

Southern Technical College (073164)
608 E. Bloomingdale Ave.
Brandon, FL 33511

Southern Technical College (073162)
1485 Florida Mall Ave.
Orlando, FL 32809

Southern Technical College (073168)
950 Tamiami Trail #109
Port Charlotte, FL 33953

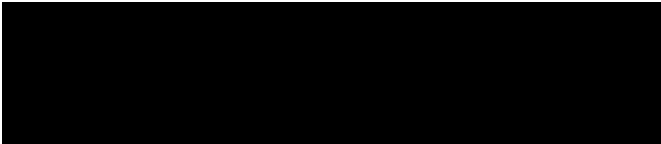
Southern Technical College (073167)
2910 S. Orlando Drive
Sanford, FL 32773

Southern Technical College (073166)
3910 Riga Blvd.
Tampa, FL 33619

C. A current résumé.

MOLLIE LUDWIG

President | Postsecondary Education Executive | Accreditation & Compliance Leader



LinkedIn: Available Upon Request

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Accomplished postsecondary education executive with more than 25 years of leadership experience spanning institutional operations, accreditation, regulatory compliance, strategic planning, enrollment management, academic affairs, and organizational transformation. Proven track record of leading multi-campus institutions through growth initiatives, accreditation reviews, state regulatory approvals, operational improvements, and cultural transformation.

Recognized nationally for expertise in accreditation and governance through extensive service with the Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC), including service as Commission Chair, Commissioner, Team Leader, Volunteer Coordinator, and Volunteer of the Year. Experienced in leading institutions through complex regulatory environments while maintaining a strong commitment to student success, workforce development, and organizational excellence.

CORE LEADERSHIP COMPETENCIES

- Executive Leadership & Organizational Development
- Accreditation & Regulatory Compliance
- Institutional Operations Management
- Strategic Planning & Execution
- Multi-Campus Administration
- Change Management & Transformation
- Enrollment & Student Success Strategies
- Program Development & Expansion
- State Authorization & Licensure
- Financial & Budget Oversight
- Team Development & Performance Management
- Governance & Board Relations
- Policy Development & Risk Management
- Community & Workforce Partnerships

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

BRENT L. MILLS, INC. (BMI)
EDUCATION MANAGEMENT INC dba BLUE CLIFF COLLEGE
President
May 2024 – Present

- Provides executive leadership for a multi-campus career college system.
- Oversees institutional operations, compliance, academic quality, strategic growth initiatives, and student success outcomes.
- Leads accreditation, state regulatory, and federal compliance efforts.
- Directs organizational transformation initiatives, operational consistency efforts, and institutional strategic planning.
- Collaborates with ownership, executive leadership, campus administration, and external stakeholders to support institutional growth and effectiveness.

Vice President of Operations

March 2024 – May 2024

- Directed institutional operations across multiple campuses.
- Led cross-functional initiatives focused on enrollment, retention, compliance, and operational effectiveness.

BMI Vice President of Corporate Compliance

July 2022 – Present

- Oversee corporate compliance functions for multiple postsecondary institutions.
- Manage federal, state, accreditor, and programmatic compliance requirements.
- Direct institutional approval processes, accreditation activities, audits, and regulatory reporting.
- Support executive leadership in strategic planning, risk management, and operational improvements.

ACCREDITING COMMISSION OF CAREER SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES (ACCSC)

Volunteer Coordinator

2019 – 2022

- Recruited, trained, and managed ACCSC's national network of accreditation volunteers.
- Supported Commission meetings and accreditation review processes.
- Conducted and coordinated accreditation site visits and volunteer training initiatives.

Accreditation Coordinator

2013 – 2014

- Served as ACCSC representative during accreditation evaluations.
- Provided interpretation of accrediting standards and guidance to institutions and evaluation teams.
- Managed accreditation processes and prepared institutional evaluation reports.

CENTRAL OKLAHOMA COLLEGE

Vice President / Director**2014 – 2019**

- Led institutional operations, compliance, strategic planning, and organizational development.
 - Directed campus leadership teams and supported institutional growth initiatives.
 - Oversaw accreditation, licensing, budgeting, and operational effectiveness.
-

PLATT COLLEGE / OKLAHOMA HEALTH ACADEMY**Executive Director****1997 – 2013**

- Held progressive leadership roles including Executive Director, Campus Director, Financial Aid Director, Admissions Representative, Career Services, and Program Coordinator.
 - Managed multi-campus operations and institutional development initiatives.
 - Directed compliance, workforce partnerships, staff development, and student success efforts.
 - Led operational improvements and strategic growth initiatives across multiple campuses.
-

ACCREDITATION & GOVERNANCE LEADERSHIP**Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC)****Chair of the Commission****2018 – 2019****Commissioner / Board of Directors****2015 – 2019****Team Leader****2007 – Present**

EDUCATION**University of Phoenix**

Coursework in Business and Organizational Leadership

City College – Norman, Oklahoma

Diploma, Medical Assisting

PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS**ACCSC Certified Accreditation Professional (CAP)**

Accrediting Commission of Career Schools and Colleges (ACCSC)

PROFESSIONAL APPOINTMENTS & SERVICE

- Chair, ACCSC Commission
- Commissioner, ACCSC Board of Directors
- ACCSC Team Leader
- Appointed Board Member, Oklahoma Board of Private Vocational Schools
- Advisory Board Member, Oklahoma Restaurant Association

HONORS & RECOGNITION

ACCSC Volunteer of the Year

Platt College Employee of the Year

PROFESSIONAL PHILOSOPHY

Dedicated to advancing career education through strong leadership, accreditation excellence, operational accountability, regulatory integrity, and a student-centered approach that prepares graduates for meaningful careers and long-term success.