



Alicia and the University Senate Staff Subcommittee,

I first and foremost want to thank you for the honor of this nomination. My name is Thomas 'Tommy' Perkins and I am the Tenant Services and Facilities Coordinator for the Innovation Enterprise here at Louisiana Tech. This position allows me to work alongside several departments within the University as well as outside tenant companies, vendors, university partners, and prospective partners. It is a great pleasure to be able to represent the Innovation Enterprise and Louisiana Tech University both on and off the campus. This September I will celebrate my fifth anniversary of employment here at Louisiana Tech. I graduated with a Bachelor's Degree of General Studies in 2003 becoming the first (but certainly not the last) member of my family to attend Louisiana Tech. While attending Tech I participated in various clubs and organizations as well as being a four year Varsity Cheerleader and member of the Student Advancement Team. The relationships formed during my college years here in Ruston have gone on to serve me well in the years since and I was ecstatic for the opportunity to return to campus as an employee. I strive throughout my daily tasks and duties to represent Tech with the utmost integrity, enthusiasm, and excellence whether on or off the campus. It brings me a certain sense of pride to be able to give back to the institution and people who poured so much into me early in my life.

I was born and raised in West Monroe where I reside today with my wife JoErin and our daughters Avalynn and Caroline. We attend Whites Ferry Road Church where we are very active, volunteering in several men's, women's, and children's ministries.

It is truly a blessing to be a continuous part of the Louisiana Tech family and I look forward to serving the University and community in the years to come.

Thomas 'Tommy' Perkins

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tommy Perkins".

Tenant Services and Facilities Coordinator
Innovation Enterprise



LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

10 May 20223

To whom it might concern:

It is with pleasure I write this letter supporting Mr. Tommy Perkins for the Outstanding Service Award, for he exemplifies the kind of individual this award was meant to recognize.

I have collaborated with Mr. Perkins on a variety of projects over the years – from coordinating small classroom activities to planning major regional events. Through his actions during each of these events, Mr. Perkins continually embodied the spirit of service – to give freely, to lead effortlessly, and to innovate continually. A bit of context: I first collaborated with him to plan a small health communication symposium on campus at LA Tech. I have since worked with Mr. Perkins to coordinate a variety of events – from scheduling a visiting speakers series to organizing a major conference on the Tech campus. His actions and attitude during these undertakings was nothing short of inspirational; in fact, they often inspired others working with him to become exemplars of true, selfless service as well.

Throughout the various projects, Mr. Perkins and I worked on over the years, he never said “No” or “I can’t do that.” Not once; not ever – no matter how challenging the task. Rather, his attitude was always one of “I will find a way!” And every time, he did. No matter what the challenge involved, Mr. Perkins gave 110% to make sure things happened. For one project, he readily coordinating the reservation and use of space on the Tech campus in mid quarter (something others informed me was “impossible” to do). For another, he coordinated parking so visiting students and faculty could easily participate in campus events – an accomplishment often referred to as “miraculous” by others who had tried to do the same.

What makes such feats truly remarkable is the attitude Mr. Perkins maintained throughout every project and task, no matter how onerous it was. For events we coordinated, he went out of his way to meet every guest – every guest – and to make them feel welcome and special from the moment they set foot on the Tech campus. (Note: It was not his responsibility to do so, nor was he prompted to interact with guests; he simply saw a need to help – to welcome others – and he did.) In every interaction he has with others – be they a visiting scholar, a student, or anyone else – Mr. Perkins patiently and sincerely listens. He will fully listen to visitor complaints and concerns and immediately enact a solution – no matter how difficult the request. (Example: He coordinated a last-minute ride from Tech to the Monroe Airport for a visitor who was unable to rent a car the day of her flight – even though it was not his responsibility to do so!)

His positive outlook of selfless service to others, moreover, is infectious. There have been numerous times when his dedication to helping individuals has prompted those around him to do so as well. These persons include staff, faculty, students, and administrators, and such spontaneous willingness to serve simply happens every time Mr. Perkins is present. Additionally, his dedicated “can-do” attitude marks him as a natural leader, and the respect it immediately garners from others prompts those around him to do – to give and to serve – almost reflexively. In these ways, Mr. Perkins represents the true servant-leader who not only does what he asks others to do, but who also inspires those around him to do out of a true, internal sense of service.

Through his dedication to helping his fellow persons, his continual optimistic cheer, and his focus on true actions over hollow words, Mr. Perkins represents what all of us should try to achieve through serving others in all we do. He is an incredible member of the LA Tech community, and we are all better due to Mr. Perkins being a part of our campus. In truth, he is the ideal person whose work should be acknowledged with the Outstanding Service Award.

Sincerely,

Kirk St. Amant

Kirk St. Amant

Professor and Eunice C. Williamson Endowed Chair in Technical Communication

A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

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May 9, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this formal letter of recommendation to be added to the packet of Louisiana Tech University Faculty Senate's Outstanding Service Award Nominee, Tommy Perkins.

I've had the pleasure of working with Tommy both as a previous tenant of Tech Pointe and in my current role as President and CEO of the Ruston-Lincoln Chamber of Commerce. In both experiences, I can confidently attest to Tommy's professionalism and effectiveness as the Tenant Services and Facilities Coordinator at Tech Pointe. Given his responsibilities within the Innovation Enterprise team, Tommy must seamlessly solve problems while meeting the needs of multiple constituencies – students, university tenants and regional partners. Tommy is cool under pressure and is always quick to bring a solution to every conversation, which makes him a great asset to Innovation Enterprise and Louisiana Tech.

When the service merits of an individual are recognized, we are quick to think of countless adjectives like humble, professional, welcoming, grounded, determined, and selfless. Tommy embodies each of these and actively brings them to life in his daily work all in service to Louisiana Tech University. Tommy Perkins would be an outstanding awardee for this Outstanding Service Award.

Sincerely,

Will Dearmon
President/CEO
Ruston-Lincoln Chamber of Commerce



LOUISIANA TECH
UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING & SCIENCE

May 7, 2023

Dear Award Committee,

It is my honor to recommend Tommy Perkins for the Outstanding Service Award at Louisiana Tech University. I have had the pleasure of knowing him and working with him over the last 8-10 years. I have always had positive interactions with him, and he has really been a key contact for myself. He is not only helpful, but truly cares and will go out of his way to help. I have seen this firsthand on many occasions.

The unique thing about Tommy is that his position is not typically noticed by many across the campus. He primarily works with many of the outside stakeholders to the university. He does this in a way that represents Tech in only a positive light. There have been countless number of times that he has not only answered the needed questions, but has gone above and beyond to find a solution to a problem.

I have personally seen how he has really helped myself, other faculty and staff, and administrators. He truly looks for ways to "serve" others and will go above and beyond to help them. Personally when I think on someone who deserves to win the Outstanding Service Award, I think of someone like Tommy that does this outside of their normal job duties. He exemplifies this to the full extent.

Tommy Perkins would be an outstanding choice for the Outstanding Service Award. I believe that he represents the University well in all that he does, and is an example of what we desire for someone to be in the Tech Family. He is helpful and friendly in every interaction I have had with him. I recommend him to you without reservation. If I can assist in any way, or if you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Heath Tims, PhD
Associate Dean, COES
Associate Professor, Mechanical Engineering