

The background of the entire image is a scenic landscape featuring three hikers in silhouette as they ascend a steep, rocky mountain trail. The hikers are positioned on the left side of the frame, with the lead hiker at the top, followed by a second hiker, and a third hiker at the bottom who is reaching up to assist the second. They are all wearing backpacks and using ropes for safety. The background consists of a vast mountain range under a sky transitioning from a pale blue at the top to a warm orange and yellow near the horizon, where a bright sun is visible. The overall mood is one of challenge, teamwork, and achievement.

Making Disciples

ABHE ANNUAL MEETING

FEBRUARY 19-21, 2025

ROSEN PLAZA HOTEL | ORLANDO, FL

WHAT EVERY PRESIDENT NEEDS FROM THE CAO

Building the Bond Between CEO & CAO

Terrance A. Ford, Ph.D.

President & CEO

Foster College
Dallas, Texas

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "t. ford", is located in the bottom right corner of the slide.



Presidents themselves conceptualize the role of a chief academic officer in widely varying ways. But when pressed, most faculty members, administrators and others who work in higher education would agree that some models for the job are better than others...

— *Inside Higher Ed*, 2018.

“Guidance for Chief Academic Officers at Liberal Arts Colleges”.





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Faculty Recruitment and Development

Play a key role in recruiting, supporting, and evaluating faculty.

Student Progress and Academic Support

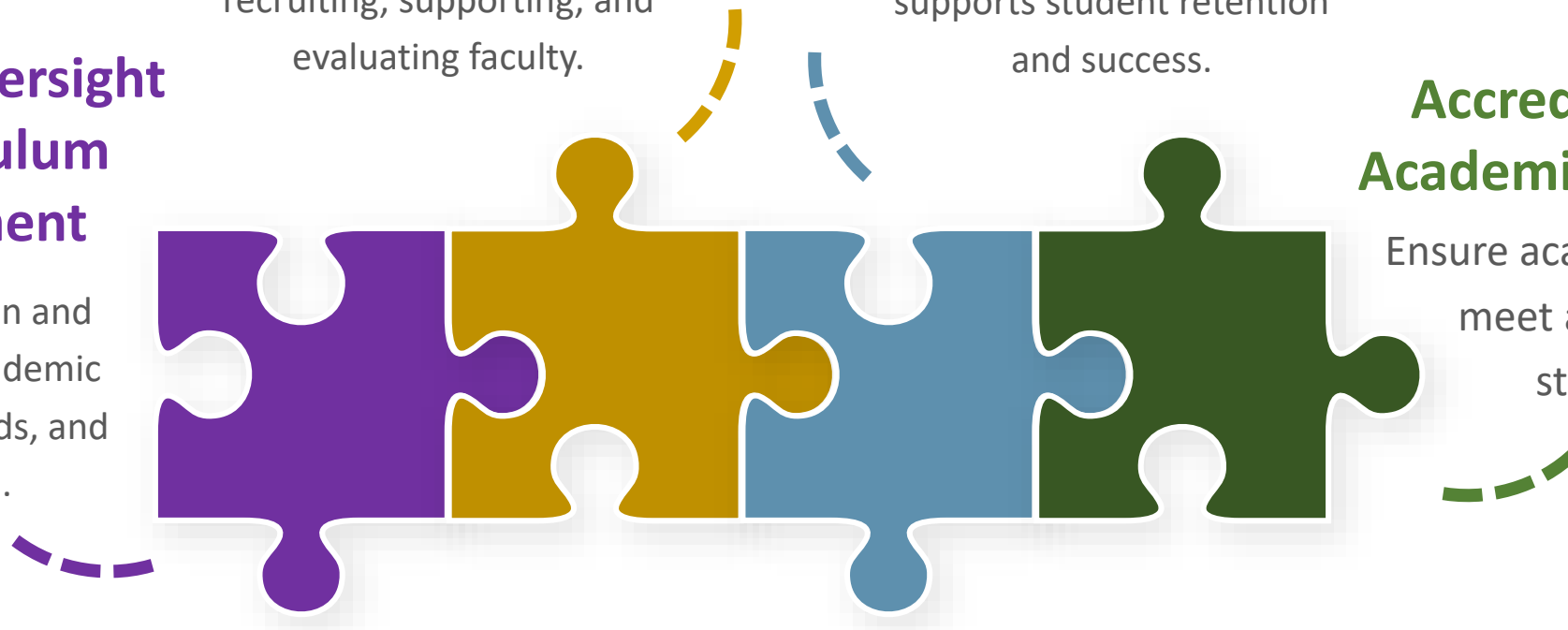
Ensure academic experience supports student retention and success.

Academic Oversight and Curriculum Development

Oversee creation and execution of academic policies, standards, and curriculum.

Accreditation and Academic Compliance

Ensure academic programs meet accreditation standards.



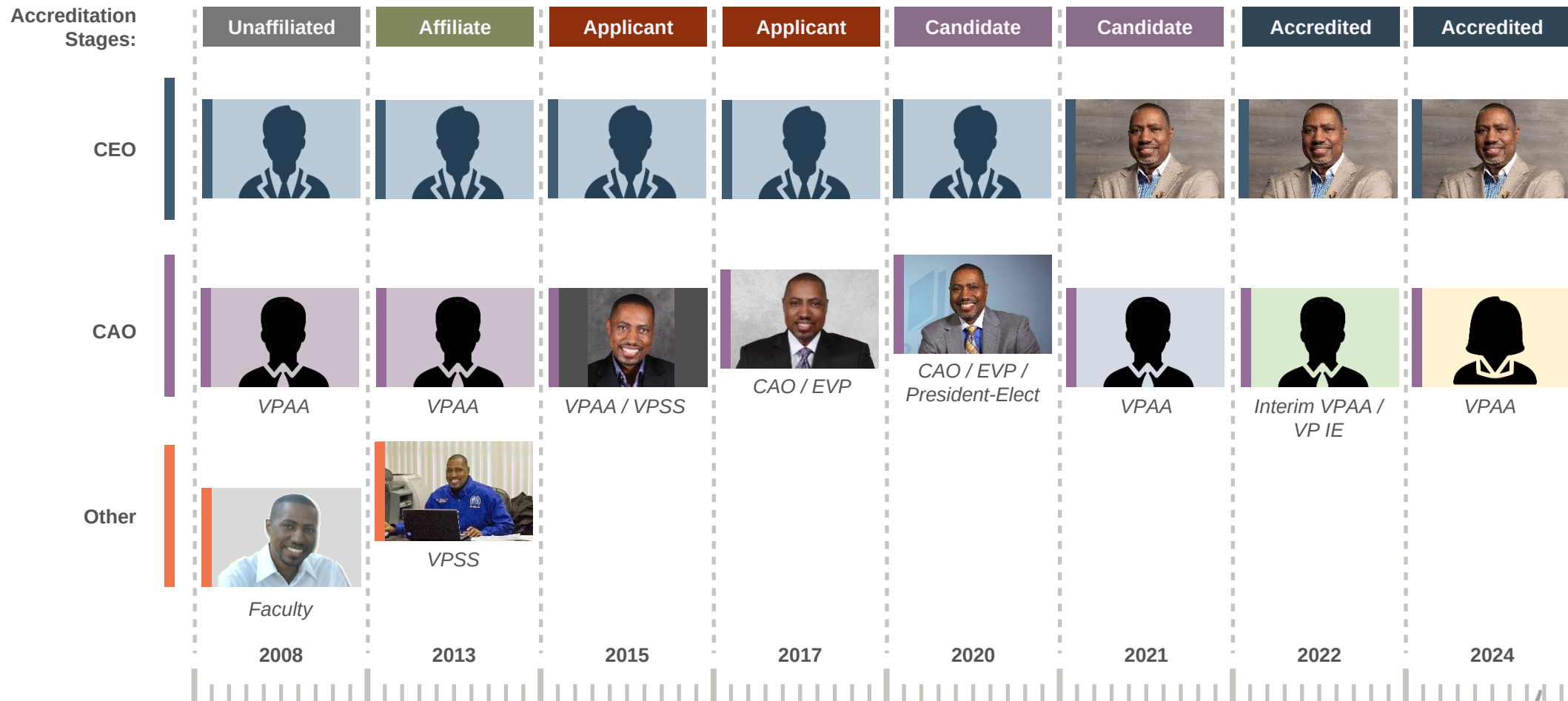
t. ford

Disclaimer:

“While I do not claim to be an expert, I have gained insights through my own experience and journey.”

— ***Dr. Terrance A. Ford***
President & CEO - Foster College

A handwritten signature in grey ink that reads "t. ford".



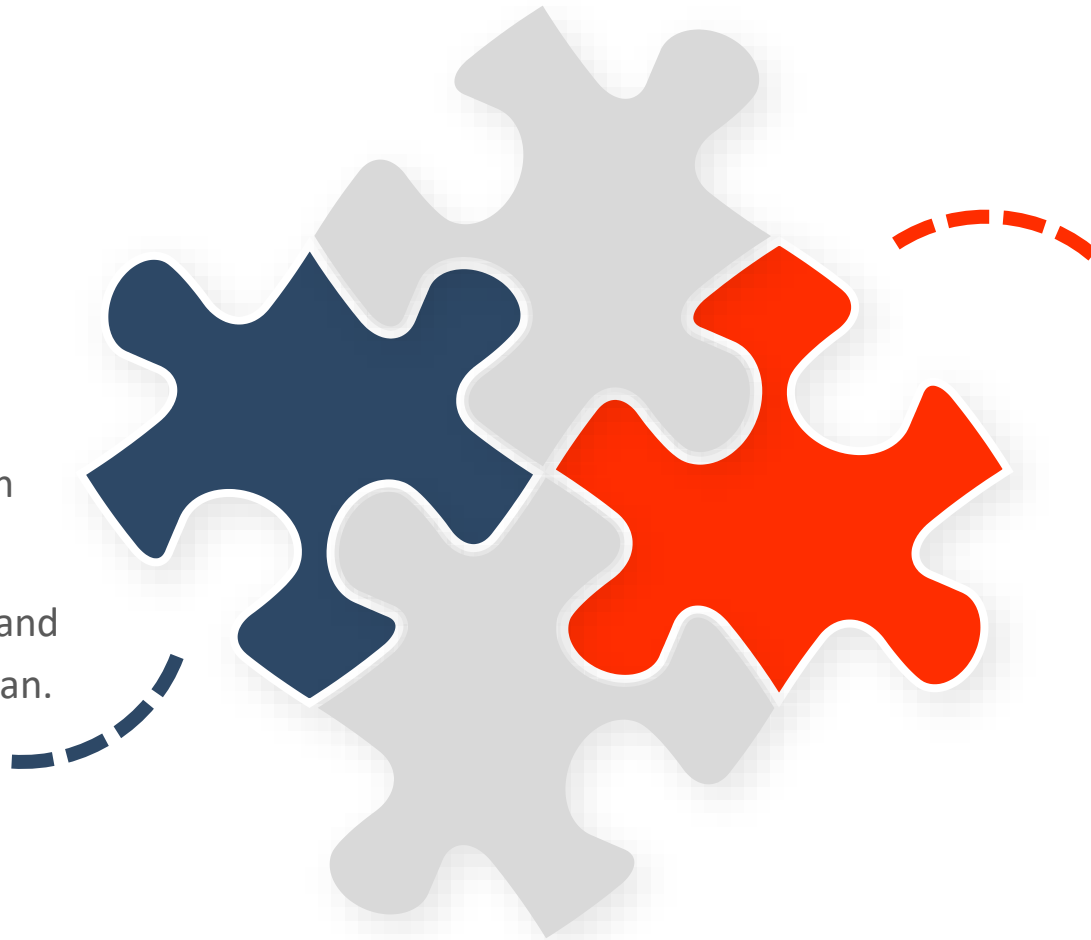



1. Qualification Fit
2. Accreditation Stage
3. Alignment of Philosophies of Education
4. Leadership Styles Compatibility
5. Ability to Balancing Academic Freedom and Institutional Priorities

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Synchronize Goals and Vision

- Ensure academic priorities and institutional goals are in harmony.
- Embed academic direction and priorities within strategic plan.



Frequent Communication and Prioritizing Decision-Making

- Meet regularly and have clear communication channels.
- CEO, be specific of areas of retained decision-making concerning academic matters.

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Continue the Conversation:

- "A Few Thoughts for the New Chief Academic Officer." *Academic Briefing*, <https://www.academicbriefing.com/administration/a-few-thoughts-for-the-new-chief-academic-officer/>. Accessed 9 Feb. 2025.
- "Guidance for Chief Academic Officers at Liberal Arts Colleges." *Inside Higher Ed*, 15 Nov. 2018, <https://www.insidehighered.com/advice/2018/11/15/guidance-chief-academic-officers-liberal-arts-colleges-opinion>. Accessed 9 Feb. 2025.
- "Factors Chief Academic Officers Consider in Deciding Whether to Remain in Their Positions." *Academy of Education*, <https://acad.org/resource/factors-chief-academic-officers-consider-in-deciding-whether-to-remain-in-their-positions/>. Accessed 9 Feb. 2025.



[T. Ford - Digital Business Card](#)

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