

[DATE]

To Whom it May Concern:

[NAME OF STUDENT] was selected as a Mellon Foundation Transformative Learning in the Humanities (TLH) Student Advisory Board Member and served as a leading participant in the [Transformative Learning in the Humanities \(TLH\)](#) in [SEMESTER].

TLH is a three-year initiative at the City University of New York (CUNY) supported by a generous \$2 million grant from the Mellon Foundation. TLH is part of the [CUNY Innovative Teaching Academy](#), which aims to improve pedagogy at scale and recognize excellence and innovation in teaching by CUNY faculty. TLH supports public talks, symposia, and workshops as well as a series of intensive peer-to-peer faculty seminars for CUNY faculty in the humanities, arts, and interpretive social sciences.

The [SEMESTER] TLH Mellon Student Advisory Boards was composed of 12 students, representing 8 campuses from across CUNY. The Board, consisting of students from diverse backgrounds and academic interests, brainstormed ideas for the Student Summit, working as a team to envision a public summit where students could talk back to their university. They reflected on TLH's Transformative Speakers series, contributing insightful reflections on literature and issues of social justice. They touched on priorities like organization, a high level of interaction, good outreach, community building, and an openness in terms of communication and presentation.

We are deeply grateful to [NAME OF STUDENT] for their leadership, volunteerism, and for their collaboration with peers and service to the CUNY community.

Sincerely,

Shelly Eversley, PhD  
Professor and Interim Chair of Black and Latino Studies  
Baruch College, CUNY

Matt Brim, PhD  
Professor of Queer Studies  
College of Staten Island, CUNY

Christina Katopodis, PhD  
Associate Director  
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