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TO: The Lakeland Foundation Board, Alumni & Friends

FROM: The Lakeland Foundation Team

DATE: July 3, 2025

SUBJ: The Lakeland Foundation Friday Update – Special Thursday Edition

Happy Thursday!

In this special edition of the Friday Update, we're excited to introduce you to our new executive director for The Lakeland Foundation, **John McCreery**. John joined our team this week on July 1, taking the baton from Tina Baucher, interim executive director since July 2024, who will resume her position as the Foundation's associate director for development. We deeply appreciate Tina's commitment, diligence, and leadership this past year in her interim capacity.

John comes to Lakeland from Case Western Reserve University, where he served most recently as director of alumni engagement for the Weatherhead School of Management and previously as director of special gifts for the College of Arts and Sciences and acting senior director of donor engagement and alumni relations. Prior to his tenure at Case, John was the director of development at Lake Erie College and senior director for alumni affairs at Cleveland State University, where he had served for 22 years in a number of roles in advancement and alumni engagement. While John now resides in Cuyahoga Falls, he grew up in Chardon and is a Hilltopper at heart.

"I'm thrilled to join Lakeland Community College as the new Executive Director of the Foundation," says John. "As a former first-generation college student, I know firsthand the impact that access to affordable, high-quality education can have on a person's life. It's been my career mission to help make that opportunity possible for others. I'm looking forward to meeting donors, alumni, and friends of Lakeland, and to building on the incredible work Lakeland has done in the community and region—excited for what's ahead!"

John believes, as we do, that a spirit of service is not just part of our work - it's the driving force behind our mission as stewards of philanthropy and champions for every student's potential at Lakeland. As we celebrate the 4th of July this week, we also celebrate John in his new role and the skills, experience, and readiness he brings to our Foundation team.

Feel free to reach out to John directly at imccreery1@lakelandcc.edu / 440-525-7086. Welcome, John!

Have a safe and happy holiday weekend, and thanks for all you do for our community college!

Sincerely,

#TeamFoundation