

December 26, 2017

Hi Colleen:

I strongly support the nomination of Dr. Ronald Ellis, President of California Baptist University for the 2017 City Spirit Award. Dr. Ellis has transformed CBU from a small college of 800 students in 1994, to a world class university of over 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students. CBU not only is a huge economic driver for the City of Riverside, but the Lancer Athletic Program has dominated Division II Athletics for years. As they move to Division I in the fall of 2018, CBU now has a state of the art Events Center, the largest in Riverside and one of the finest facilities in Southern California. This would not have happened without the visionary leadership of Dr. Ron Ellis. As I reviewed the "Spirit of the City" list, I was shocked that Dr. Ellis had not already received this prestigious award. I think that the time has come for Riverside to acknowledge the brilliant work of Dr. Ellis on behalf of CBU and our community.

Best wishes,

Chris MacArthur  
Councilmember, Ward 5  
City of Riverside

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**Colleen, I, too, am in full support of nominating Dr. Ellis for the Spirit Award. His accomplishments at California Baptist University are impressive to say the least. His "Spirit" is exactly what this award represents. Thanks.**

**Councilmember Chuck Conder, Ward 4**