

On behalf of SCF staff comes Ms. Karyn Washington. She has been a part of the College family since 1978, holding positions in several departments, and currently is the Manager of Business Operations. Ms. Washington holds a business management degree from Eckerd College and is a proud graduate of MCC.

Karyn Washington:

Good afternoon. We will be hearing today from various speakers who will bring different views of Dr. Probstfeld, whose inauguration as our president we have gathered to celebrate.

My viewpoint represents the non-instructional members of the College family—all of us who provide daily operational, professional and administrative support so the faculty can teach and students can learn.

The perspective that I offer today stems from my **very** good fortune of being executive assistant to Dr. Probstfeld, then the vice president of business and administrative services, from 2005 until 2011. When you are in a two-person office, **it affords the opportunity to get to know each other personally**. You know instantly if you have a good fit the first time you meet some people. Dr. Probstfeld and I gelled right away and over time our pleasant professional relationship grew into a solid and close friendship that endures today.

So, today, I'm going to "dish" about the Dr. Probstfeld that I got to know.

The Dr. Carol Probstfeld that I know is an extremely fair person in how she treats people and situations.

She is a compassionate and caring person, not just for our students and employees but **also** for our communities.

She's approachable. I didn't have to be timid about taking concerns to her and I was confident that we would find solutions together.

She is a trusted confidante, as I learned from hundreds of morning powwows and heart-to-heart talks.

She is true to herself. Some people feel pressured to present themselves as others expect them to be, even when it doesn't reflect who they are. With Dr. Probstfeld, you never have to wonder.

She has integrity. We dealt with some things where she could have taken the easy route, but she always chose to make the decision that allowed her to lie down at night with a clear conscience.

She studies a situation and does her homework before deciding what needs to be done.

She's a fixer of broken things. I wasn't surprised that her top priority as president was building and repairing relationships. And she will continue until she gets those relationships in good shape.

She is respectful of people and their differences, and she sets that expectation for everyone who reports to her.

She develops mutually supportive relationships. Dr. Probstfeld doesn't condescend or patronize people who have less education or a lower position on the organizational chart. She believes that everyone can contribute something for the greater good. "Everyone's job is important in its own way," she would say.

"Everyone's job" – that means all of us, whatever our position at State College of Florida or in the community. Let us as the College family reply in kind and rally behind our president, hold each other up and propel each other forward.

Most important, Dr. Probstfeld is a real collaborator who considers an effort a success when everybody wins. An African proverb perfectly describes her philosophy:

"If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to **go far**, go together."

Dr. Probstfeld, you can count on the expertise and support of the career, professional and administrative employees to make your vision for State College of Florida a reality, and **together, we will go far**.

Thank you.