

Colleague:

I write today to offer my enthusiastic and unqualified recommendation for Spring Petta to join your faculty. I have had the pleasure of knowing Spring for the past several years - since she moved to the area to take an associate faculty position with EvCC. She is an exceptionally well qualified teacher; she is an exceptionally good teacher, and she is a dynamic teacher and leader.

You are likely familiar with her credentials, for she has no doubt provided you with a CV or resume, so I hope to share some insights that you cannot glean from simply perusing these documents.

What a CV cannot show is her work ethic. She is committed and dedicated to her work as a teacher and, importantly, to her students. She works hard. She works a lot. She works fast, and her work is of exceptionally high quality.

She is courageous. She is willing to take on new challenges, to try new techniques, and to test her own thinking and ideas. She holds herself to high standards but is flexible with her students. Her classes are rigorous, but if a student applies even moderate effort to her classes, the student WILL learn and will likely enjoy the process of that learning.

She is approachable and affable - so important over the past year! Her classroom offers a safe space for students, and she walks the walk of equity and inclusion. Even in an online environment, her voice and personality come through in her writing, her videos, and her assignments. And shining through it all is her enthusiasm - indeed love - for the disciplines she teaches.

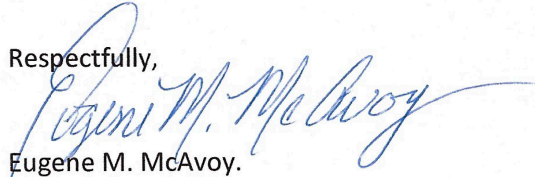
She is willing to speak truth to power, and at the same time she is fair and forgiving. She is honest. She is kind. And all of this is evident in her classes where she does not make assumptions about what students "should" know but helps them gain the knowledge and skills they need. She uses a variety of media to present content to appeal to all learning styles and preferences, and - I LOVE this - uses a variety of authentic assessments to measure student learning. Her classes incorporate project based learning, and I have been *extremely* impressed with the level of student engagement I have witnessed and with how timely, thoughtful, helpful, and meaningful her interactions with and feedback to students are.

She is a professional of impeccable ethics and standards. And even as an associate faculty member, she is a campus leader, advancing strategies, initiatives, and causes to ensure and assist student success. She maintains a keen interest in pedagogy and is proactive in helping other faculty strengthen their classroom skills. She is continually working to improve herself and her teaching, and she brings her

whole toolbox to bear in the classroom, in meetings, and in all of her interactions with peers and students.

In short, Ms. Petta understands *and satisfies* the needs of undergraduate students, fellow faculty who teach undergraduate students, and institutions that serve undergraduate students. I firmly believe her presence would be an invaluable asset for your college. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call or email me.

Respectfully,



Eugene M. McAvoy.

Dean, Communication and Social Sciences

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