

January 11, 2010

Dear Members of the SEAHO Awards and Recognition Committee;

I am delighted to offer this letter in support of the nomination of Ms. Ann Morgenstern for the James C. Grimm Outstanding New Professional Award. I have known Ann for over three years and thus feel comfortable speaking of her abilities.

Having served in our profession for over 25 years, I have had the chance to get to know and work with many young professionals and further with a number of individuals that resonates the passion and dedication that it takes to become a leader in this field, and I believe Ann Morgenstern is one of those individuals. Jim Grimm exemplified in my mind what it means to “give back” to the profession in the willful sharing of his time and thus in a broad sense after a very few short years I can envision a bit of a parallel between him and Ann when it comes to this unselfish act .

Since her arrival at Ole Miss, Ann has served on the SEAHO Program Committee for the two years, was a key participant in the 2006 and 2007 RADCoM (RA Conference) by serving as the Program Committee Chair and as a member of the Conference Host Committee. Ann also worked as a graduate intern at Ole Miss during the 2006 Regional Entry Level Institute (RELI) and as a member of the faculty at that Institute, I can share from first hand experience that Ann was most professional, dedicated and hard working, and very pleasant to work with.

Ann is past president of the Mississippi Association of Housing Officers, marketing coordinator for the Southern Placement Exchange, and host committee co-chair for the SEAHO 2011 conference.

At the University of Mississippi, Ann has earned the respect of her peers and others within the department through her hard work and dedication, so much so that she was promoted from the Resident Director position to the Assistant Director position for Marketing Service in early 2008.

I have always known Ann to be positive, optimistic, and extremely dedicated to the profession. Again, like Jim, she has an obvious passion to help students succeed and understands that we as housing professionals can play a major role in doing so.

I suspect by now you can see that I hold Ann Morgenstern in very high regard as a young professional, so much so that at one time we here at The University of Alabama in Huntsville heavily recruited her to come join our team.

In conclusion, while reading over the criterion for consideration for this award it stated that a nominee is to demonstrate outstanding performance to his/her campus and profession, therefore demonstrating potential for a successful and effective career in housing. Upon reading that I became even more convinced that Ann Morgenstern should be nominated for this award, and I am most honored to offer this letter in support of her nomination.

Please feel free to contact me if I can offer any other information. In the meantime, I appreciate your time and consideration of Ann.

Sincerely,

John Maxon Associate Vice President for University Housing And Campus Business Operation

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