



The College at
BROCKPORT
STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK

Department of Social Work

September 18, 2019

APT Committee
LITS
The College at Brockport
350 New Campus Dr.
Brockport, NY 14420

Dear Committee Members:

It is my pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for promotion to Librarian on behalf of Mr. Logan Rath, Associate Librarian at The College at Brockport. I have known Logan for over 10 years. I continue to be impressed with his commitment to student success, teaching and librarianship.

During much of his tenure at the College, Logan has served as a liaison to the Department of Social Work, specifically the undergraduate program located here on campus. Like other programs, our students need to learn how to locate, access and interpret a variety of materials to achieve course objectives and ultimately, meet our accreditation requirements. Mr. Rath's ability to engage with faculty to identify needs, willingness to collaborate, and provide students with both in-class and individual instruction plays a key role in preparing our students to become competent social workers.

Prior to the start of this current semester, Logan reached out to me to inquire about my courses and offer assistance for which I was grateful. I teach a 400-level policy analysis course where students focus on a federal or state-level policy and work throughout the semester to provide an in-depth critical analysis of the policy. Policy areas include those related to immigration, food security, and gun control. While the students in my course are seniors, many are unfamiliar with locating appropriate policy resources for this major assignment. After discussing with Mr. Rath the focus of the course and sharing the assignment, we determined a date for him to spend an hour in my class

with students demonstrating ways to search for various resources, but the way he taught them was so much more than a tutorial.

He began his presentation by describing a personal experience with a federal policy which directly impacted the education of one his foster children. In brief, a school district informed him that his child could no longer attend this particular school due to a change in the policy. This decision would have a negative impact on this child in a number of ways. Logan described how he was able to locate a recent policy guidance document which showed the school district was misinformed about the change. The school's legal team agreed with Logan and allowed his child to continue attending the school. Mr. Rath made the point quite clear to students—"As social workers, you need to know how policies work and how to advocate for your clients. This course is not just an exercise in how to write a paper, but how policies impact people. You need policy analysis skills to be effective social workers." Needless to say, Logan had grabbed the students' attention by making the topic relevant and meaningful. Throughout the remainder of his presentation, he guided students through various Blackboard and library links, had them practice while he was there to ensure they were confident in locating various sites, and answered many questions. He also showed students how to set a meeting with him, where his office was located, and ways to use technology to meet with him should they not be able to come to campus. I was also impressed with his ability to set expectations of what he can and cannot help with regarding the primary assignment.

Another benefit to having Mr. Rath provide support to my class is the information I learn from him regarding how to access information. Several resources he provided were new to me and will help me with my own scholarship as well as instruction in various other courses. It is clear that his commitment to Librarianship and engaging students is one of his greatest strengths. He is not only up to date on the ever-changing landscape of information technology and web-based resources, but he is effective in sharing his knowledge with students and faculty alike.

Our undergraduate social work program is currently undergoing a major curriculum revision. Our research methods course will be shifting to one that is focusing on information literacy—learning how to access and interpret research articles related to social work practice and policy rather than the collection and analysis of data. Mr. Rath's skillset is one in which our Department values and will be consulting with him later this semester as we plan to pilot the revised course next semester.

Outside of the classroom, I've also had the opportunity to work with Logan as Director of Multigenerational Engagement. In 2016, the College initiated a new lifelong learning program to engage retirees as auditors in various courses here on campus. As an auditor, retirees gain access to Blackboard, webmail, and other campus systems. Logan was instrumental in creating a 'tech talk' in which he created easy to understand handouts, along with a presentation, for this new segment of college learners. Again, Mr. Rath was eager to contribute his expertise to this new endeavor and is still a 'go-to' person for a number of long-time course auditors when they have challenges.

In conclusion, I feel confident speaking for many of my social work colleagues that we are truly fortunate to have Logan assigned to our Department. His competence and collegiality is second to none. Mr. Rath's ability to contribute to our students' success reaches far beyond the classroom, and into the real world where future social workers need the skills and knowledge to help address numerous issues of injustice. I think Mr. Rath should be given strong consideration for promotion to Librarian. Should any of the committee members wish to talk further about my experiences with Logan, please call me at 395-5506.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jason A. Dauenhauer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jason" being more legible than the last name.

Jason A. Dauenhauer, Ph.D., MSW
Professor of Social Work
Director, Multigenerational Engagement