



# JOSEPHINUM

May 19, 2004

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

After 15 years of teaching Computer Science and Media Production – my last 7 at Josephinum High School – I moved to Italy for 2 years. Upon returning to Chicago, in March 2002, I was hired as a part-time technology consultant at Josephinum. It was then that I met **Victor Boulanger**, who had taken my previous teaching position.

In my years of teaching, I have had the privilege to work with many talented people. I honestly have to say that I've rarely found such a wealth of qualities in one person. Victor has enthusiasm, a great sense of humor, profound knowledge of the subject, and the ability to communicate his passion for learning to everyone around him.

I quite often work in the computer or in the media labs, while Victor is teaching. I'm very impressed by his ability to handle the class. Victor is quiet but firm and steady. He is patient with the students, but at the same time he expects them to work hard. Students greatly respect Victor, and their final products are a witness to his teaching success. Victor is thorough in his preparation for and execution of lessons. PowerPoint presentations, videos, interactive programs, constant students' involvement, up-to-date media equipment: Victor's daily lesson plan is what I feel every teacher should use and do.

Besides his teaching 'load', Victor has also set up and maintained the school's network. In just a couple of years, the school has jumped from 2 computer labs and 2 desktop computers available for faculty members, to a full network that allows high speed internet connection in every classroom, as well as in 20 computers in the library and in 2 computer labs, along with 5 smart-board sets. He searched for the right equipment, purchased it, and installed the whole system. He also made it possible so that every faculty and staff members, every student and alumnae could have an e-mail address. He had a vision for the future of the school, and has worked hard to reach it.

I could not write enough about his talents, his ability to handle every situation, his patience in serving teachers and staff members, and getting them acquainted and comfortable with technology. Now, thanks to all this equipment, but especially thanks to him, the school has reached a level of technological advancement envied by many.

I would also like to speak about his problem solving capabilities. He is constantly 'bombarded' with requests, problems, repairs... He handles every situation with great calm, but without wasting time. Every issue is important to him, and he does everything he can to solve each one of them.

One last thing. During my 15 years as a teacher, I've written hundreds of letters of recommendations. I feel that I've never written such a high recommendation to anyone else. It was an honor to get to know Victor, and to work with him for two years.

Please feel free to give me a call or to write to me ([mark.desalvo@josephinum.org](mailto:mark.desalvo@josephinum.org)) if you would like me to provide further information.

Sincerely,

Mark Desalvo