

April 9, 2007

To whom it may concern,

I am delighted to recommend Victor Boulanger to your institution. Over the last 5 years Victor and I have been colleagues at Josephinum Academy in Chicago, Illinois and throughout our working relationship I have found Victor to be an exceptional instructor and an outstanding colleague who impacts the entire school in multiple ways - as a teacher for the high school and middle school, the network administrator, professional development team member, computer club moderator and volleyball coach. Through these avenues and more he has helped to create a climate of high expectations for students and faculty; he has been an invaluable contributor to the advancement of Josephinum and will be a tremendous asset to your school.

As an administrator who regularly observes each teacher at Josephinum, I can confidently state that Victor has a unique gift for teaching. His passion for teaching is evidenced by the high quality of work that students produce in his courses. Victor's students are always highly engaged during class because the content is relevant, timely, hands-on, and requires students to think and be creative; for instance in his Media class students are challenged by questions such as 'When do facts become information?' Students are taught to discern values from fact and as news anchors practice reconstructing news clips with various slants so that they understand how information is forged and how it can be manipulated. Students have commented that Mr. Boulanger's classes are fun and informative and that while his demeanor is relaxed and candid, he is strict but always fair. Victor is one of a handful of instructors who hardly ever experiences disciplinary problems from students; his classroom management techniques are exemplary and appear natural and effortless. In my observations of his interactions with students in and out of the classroom, Victor maintains his integrity and students modify their behavior to meet his standards. Based on this dynamic, I have often sought his counsel and assistance during disciplinary board hearings for middle school and high school students. Victor requires students to take ownership of their behavior and responsibility for their actions. Additionally, Victor is highly influential among the faculty - this year he has been at the forefront of designing and implementing professional development initiatives for the faculty with great success. As a result of the professional development team's efforts, the entire faculty has made significant strides in incorporating writing across the curriculum as well as developing personalized professional goals which have been presented and approved by the administration.

Anyone with Victor's talents would be highly successful in any field of their choice and I am thrilled that he has chosen to invest himself in education because our youth have access to a very rare individual. Our students and faculty at Josephinum Academy have been extremely fortunate to have him as an instructor and a role model, and yours will as well. This letter cannot fully capture how highly I regard Victor Boulanger, therefore I very much encourage you to contact me at work (773)276-1261x229 or on my cellular phone (312)203-7408 to speak further or for clarification on the contents of this letter.

Sincerely,



Karen N. Ekpenyong
Dean of Students