

February 9, 2015

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my great pleasure to recommend to you my colleague Brittany Cagle. I worked with Brittany first when she was a new teacher to the First Year Composition (FYC) program at the University of South Florida, then as a mentor for new teachers to the program, and last as a summer collaborator creating and revising the FYC curriculum during the summer of 2014.

As the list of jobs above makes clear, for any organization lucky enough to employ or enroll Brittany, she quickly performs in a manner that leads her to leadership positions. Thorough the years I have known her, Brittany has grown as a teacher and writer and exhibited stellar leadership skills from which the First Year Composition has benefited greatly.

Additionally, I have had many of Brittany's former students in my own classes and, without exception, they characterize her as a warm and caring teacher who is always well-prepared with a relevant activity and able to answer any questions posed by class members. It's actually hard to believe that working as an English Composition instructor was Brittany's first formal teaching job, as she took to both the public side of dealing with students and the behind-the-scenes aspects of curriculum creation and design so readily.

I'll close with a quick scene that should outline clearly Brittany's drive and ability. When we worked together on the team revamping the FYC curriculum last summer, we basically all sat in a room, staring at the same Google Drive documents as we discussed the direction the curriculum or assignment should take. Brittany was an eager participant in this, but she also always kept in mind the student side of our goals, and what new instructors would actually DO in the classroom to convey the complex ideas with which FYC forces students to grapple. If she fell silent for a few minutes, I knew Brittany would pipe up in short order to tell us "I made a PowerPoint to explain that!" or "I just wrote out a lesson plan; would you all take a look at it?" This deep concern for the incoming instructors and students made Brittany an invaluable team member, and I know she will be an instrumental part of any team lucky enough to have access to her time and talents.

Sincerely,

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