

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY

Graduate School of Education and Psychology

December 12, 2013

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

It is an honor to write on behalf of Dr. Desiree Friedmann, a remarkable, dedicated, and creative teacher educator. With her expertise in arts integration, theater education, classroom management, curriculum and instruction, and her experience as a teacher and administrator in school and university settings, we hired her as an Adjunct Professor to teach an arts integration course for our graduate teacher education program. She has become one of the most popular instructors of this course. In just one year, Desiree has greatly contributed to our Pepperdine family.

Desiree teaches in a hands-on, multi-sensory, and experiential manner, pushing teachers to take risks stepping beyond their comfort zones in order to grow as educators. Her lessons are rooted in 21st century skills, common core standards, and arts-based instruction, catering to all learning styles. She assigns exciting projects, gives thoughtful and detailed feedback, and models exceptional teaching at its core. She is a master teacher.

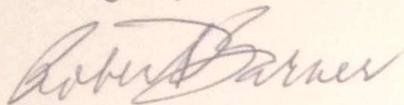
Students' evaluations of Desiree's teaching are consistently exemplary in every aspect. Her students have requested that she teach more courses at Pepperdine in order to be able to learn more from her. Many of her students continue to keep in touch with her, even when her course has ended, to seek her advice and request her feedback on their work. She is a strong educational leader, a wonderfully supportive and encouraging teacher educator, and a creative instructor.

In her first term, she was invited to participate in a six-week long technology professional development course for faculty, where she learned how to teach in a blended learning/hybrid model, focusing on learning about and using online instructional strategies to complement her face-to-face instruction. Senior administrators and full-time faculty members also enrolled in the course were quite impressed by her thoughtful contributions and innovative ideas.

Desiree can captivate a crowd with her dynamic personality, great sense of humor, and strong command of educational theory and practice, while also having the ability to genuinely connect with her audience. She is warm, caring, deeply invested in the success of her students, and a delight to work with.

If we had a full-time position available I would appoint her immediately, without question, as it is rare to find an individual with outstanding credentials in teaching, research, and service. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any question about this superior candidate. I recommend Dr. Desiree Friedmann without reservation. Her job search won't last for long!

With regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert R. Barner".

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