LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION for Mr. Richard Say

With great pleasure I offer this recommendation for Mr. Richard Say who is a teacher certification (secondary social sciences) candidate and Master's Degree (M.S. in Education) candidate at Albright College.

I have known Richard as his Advisor and Professor in graduate courses for two years. A "mature gentleman" as he describes himself, Richard has already completed a very successful career in business which includes world travel, teaching, and consulting work. He now is eager to teach high school social studies and to share his experience with young people.

Mr. Say is, quite simply, one of the two best social studies teachers I have observed in my 40 years of training teachers. His work experience is an obvious advantage, as are his parenting (he has a son about to enter college), his social interaction skills and his positive, outgoing personality. Equipped with a wealth of useful information, anecdotes gathered from real world experience, and an innate understanding of what makes people behave as they do, Richard can capture and hold the attention of even the most recalcitrant adolescent. I have watched him fascinate his peers, young students, and Boards of Trustees. Widely read, an accomplished writer, master of technology, and possessed of an extremely strong work ethic, Mr. Say has proven himself to be both a highly successful graduate student and a very competent classroom teacher. He brings to the teaching of social studies skills and qualities which few people can match.

Richard is a constructivist teacher in the best sense of that term. He focuses on student learning, but guides it to success through teacher support and encouragement. He asks more than he tells, observes more than he directs, rewards more than he reproves, and ultimately seeks to do what is best for each individual student.

I enjoyed teaching Richard Say. I look forward to having conversations with him. I respect all that he is and does. Without any qualification and with great enthusiasm I recommend Richard Say for a teaching position. He is really good.

Sarel P. Fuchs, Ph.D.

Dean of Graduate Studies

Professor of Education and Classics

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