



The University of New Mexico

T A O S

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To Whom It May Concern:

This is a letter of recommendation for Mr. Kevin Cassell of the University of New Mexico – Taos. Mr. Cassell has been full time English instructor for our University for the past three years.

Kevin Cassell is an outstanding English instructor and a real asset to our University Of New Mexico –Taos. In the initial search for his current position, we had over 130 applicants (the majority with PhDs) and Mr. Cassell rose to the top due to his outstanding teaching record and commitment to the academic institutions he had been associated with. He has continued this high caliber of teaching and service with us as well.

In the words of Mr. Cassell's students, "he is awesome". I have personally watched very apprehensive students, who have been unsuccessful in high school, finish his class confident in their writing skills and ability to take more difficult classes. I have seen non-traditional students who have been out of school for decades leaving Kevin's class with the necessary writing skills for employability. I have heard student's stories about how Kevin has inspired them to go on for advanced degrees. In the classroom, Mr. Cassell sets high standards, maintains a rigorous curriculum, and is totally engaging. His students are his strongest advocates. I can honestly say that Mr. Kevin Cassell is one of the finest instructors at the University of New Mexico – Taos.

As Dean of Instruction, I have also had the opportunity to work with Mr. Cassell on a variety of task forces and projects to improve our University community. Faculty Senate, The Center for Faculty Development, Student Success Task Force are the better for his presence. He has single handedly developed our entire Faculty Handbook and has developed and implemented a faculty mentoring program for our students.

We are a young University and Kevin Cassell, in his short time here, has made a real impact on this institution. He has established quality benchmarks for teaching English. He has developed, along with faculty senate, policies and procedures that will guide us for many years to come. For the above reasons, we will truly miss Mr. Kevin Cassell. Mr. Cassell is an outstanding instructor, faculty member, and a real inspiration to his students. I wish him the very best.

Please feel free to contact me for additional information, at 505-737-6226 or [gilroy@unm.edu](mailto:gilroy@unm.edu).

Sincerely,



Jim Gilroy

Dean of Instruction

UNM-Taos