

THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
BOARD OF GOVERNORS'
DOCTORAL STUDY ASSIGNMENT PROGRAM

Recommendation of Dean or Chairperson

Applicant's Name Laurie J. Patterson

Please provide a statement recommending the applicant. At a minimum, you should address as specifically as possible the applicant's capabilities, including predicted success in finishing a doctoral program, potential for professional contribution to your institution and academic area as a consequence of further graduate study, research studies; and other advancement efforts undertaken since the applicant's current degree was acquired; and any activities in addition to classroom teaching that reflect a commitment to higher education.

To Whom It May Concern:

Laurie J. Patterson joined the faculty of the Department of Computer Science as a part-time Lecturer for the Fall Semester 1998; she became a full time Lecturer in January 1999. Laurie has taught four sections (12 hours) of our introductory computer literacy service course each semester with remarkable success; her courses are dynamic, interesting, demanding, and very popular with the students. Laurie keeps up-to-date with the latest advances in the hardware and software affecting the course she teaches. She has also thrown herself into the work of the department with energy and enthusiasm; she has 70 academic advisees, is the editor of our newsletter, participates actively in all committee work, and is the first to volunteer for special projects. While carrying what would be a very heavy workload for most faculty, Laurie has been taking courses at Nova Southeastern University and has been making steady progress on her doctoral dissertation in instructional technology. I am confident that she will finish her dissertation this summer, and will need only one more year of courses to complete the Ed.D. degree.

Laurie's dissertation research is in Web-based instruction. We already have one tenure-track faculty member who publishes extensively in this same area. For a campus like UNCW which is comparatively isolated geographically, it is desirable to have more than one faculty member in a department who is doing research in a given area. Also, UNCW has chosen the Department of Computer Science as a focus for developing Web-based courses. The expertise Laurie's doctoral studies are providing will be valuable.

Even after completion of her degree, there will still be many computer science courses which Laurie cannot teach. However, she will be needed to teach the computer literacy service course for the foreseeable future. Her increased knowledge of instructional technology and distance education complement her talent and experience in working with students, in planning and administration of computer labs, and in academic administration to make her a valued contributor in the department.

Laurie has skills which are in high demand in industry and from other educational institutions. Programs such as the Board of Governor's Doctoral Study Assignment Program can help the UNC system retain people like Laurie Patterson who make such a positive impact on so many of our students.

Barbara Ann Greim
Signature

11/02/1999
Date

Department Chair
Title