

THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA'S COLLEGE AT WISE



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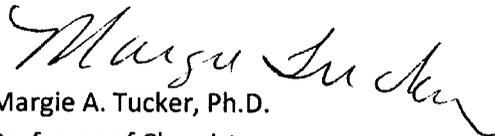
Dear Kevin:

I was asked to do a teaching evaluation for Mindy Kellogg in her special topics course "Black Holes." I visited the class on Friday, 26 October 2007, and Wednesday, 31 October 2007. There were four students present on the two days that I attended.

Mindy is a remarkable teacher. It has been thirty years since I last took a physics or calculus course, and I was able to follow her with ease. She set up her scenario with great clarity, and then rather than simply give the relevant equations she questioned her students closely in order to get them to generate the answers that were needed. Student involvement was continuous; the hour was spent in a dialog or guided discussion with very little lecture. She was dynamic, and gave a well-organized and fascinating presentation.

The black holes course is an elective course that assumes a working knowledge of calculus. The students who were present on the two days I attended seemed, based on their ability to answer questions, to be quite adept at the math required. They were obviously interested in the course content, and were able to answer Mindy's questions and to ask intelligent and insightful questions themselves. I think it is telling that Mindy attracted a group of extraordinarily bright and talented young people into that class. I think Mindy is an outstanding teacher. While I cannot comment on her teaching in the lower level courses with their higher enrollments, I have no reason to doubt that she is equally adept at engaging and challenging that population of students as well.

Sincerely,


Margie A. Tucker, Ph.D.
Professor of Chemistry