

July 25, 2011

To Whom it May Concern:

Writing letters of reference for deserving students and graduates is one of a professor's most enjoyable tasks. Writing a letter for Paul Giglio is especially enjoyable because few students are as deserving as he is. This isn't the first letter I've written Paul's behalf. Six months ago, I wrote a similar letter when he was nominated for the state-wide Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence. This award is SUNY's most prestigious award recognizing student achievement. Paul eventually won the award, not because of anyone's endorsement letter, but because he proved himself to be a singular student and citizen in our campus community. Although I never had Paul in class, I've known him for approximately two years as he has served on our Department's Student Advisory Council. As I got to know him and learned of his accomplishments, I remain in awe of what he accomplished as a student at Brockport.

Very simply put, Paul is the most enthusiastic, involved, and capable student, I've met on any college campus. In the following paragraphs, I will attempt to encapsulate his credentials – academic, extracurricular, and leadership – to support his future career endeavors.

Academics: Paul's accomplishments in the classroom are evident by his final 3.84/4.00 Grade Point Average. Impressively, his GPA encompasses two degrees in International Studies, and International Business, and he completed 161 credits (the typical student graduates with 120). In addition, he was a member of Delta College, which requires exceptionally high standards for its members. His academic accomplishments have not gone unrecognized. His acknowledgements include Dean's Lists, National Honor Societies, Scholarships, commendations, and he presented four scholarly papers at different national conferences. Upon graduation he became a member of the prestigious Alpha Chi's Honor Society. Paul's studies weren't limited to Brockport and the United States. During his college career, he studied abroad in China and Great Britain, very appropriate for an International Studies and International Business major. He also completed three internships, all related to his majors.



Extracurricular: Rather than list all the extracurricular activities in which Paul participated, I will outline a few of the areas in which he involved himself on campus. He was very involved in Student Affairs in numerous ways. He was a Resident Assistant, Student Liaison to the College Senate, Representative on our Middle States Steering Committee, Representative on the College-wide Budget & Resource Committee, Tour Guide for prospective students and their families, Coordinator for the Student Mentor Program, Treasurer for Delta College, member of the Board of Directors for the Brockport Student Government, and Conductor of the Campus's Pep Band. His extracurricular commitments also served the community. He chaired a fundraiser for the Special Olympics, and volunteered with nonprofits such as St. Anne's Community Center, Holiday Helping Hands and Lakeside Memorial Hospital's Daycare Center.

Leadership: As remarkable as Paul's academic and extracurricular accomplishments are, it's worth noting that his contributions were often in leadership capacities. His resume is sprinkled with titles such as "Coordinator, "Chairman," etc. He was also instrumental in starting the Pep Band, serving as its first Conductor. His leadership contributions include student organizations, but he's also respected by faculty and staff alike who invited him to participate on the College Senate, Budget and Resource Committee, and Accreditation Steering Committee. There are few (if any) students who showed more initiative and leadership on this campus than Paul.

There is an old adage about organizational citizenship, "It's not the years you put in, it's what you put into those years." In his four years at Brockport, Paul put more of himself than anyone (student or faculty) I know. He contributed his time, intellect, enthusiasm, leadership, and heart. More importantly, he contributed at a high level in all areas, academically and otherwise. His GPA proves he was an outstanding student, and his long list of extracurricular and leadership accomplishments attest that he was an equally outstanding member of the larger Brockport community. Brockport is a better place for having had Paul as one of its students.

As Paul embarks on his career, it's a pleasure and honor to contribute this letter to his dossier. To the organization that hires him, they will have hired a highly intelligent, competent, and committed individual who will contribute to the organization as he contributed to our campus. If you should have any questions or concerns about his candidacy, please contact me directly.

Very truly yours,

John D. Keiser, Ph.D.

Associate Professor and Chair