

2 June 2014

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

**LETTER OF COMMENDATION FOR APPLICATION FOR THE NMMU
DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD**

It is my privilege to testify to the professional conduct and teaching abilities of Dr Andre Du Plessis a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Education. I got to know Dr du Plessis many years ago when he was still a teacher at a primary school, but has worked closely with Dr du Plessis for the last five years. Over the past five years I got to know Dr du Plessis as academic professional, but also as colleague and friend and can testify to his teaching and personal qualities with confidence.

Dr du Plessis is one of the most dedicated and committed lectures I have ever met. He care deeply about his students and always gives his best when teaching and preparing for lectures. He sets high standards for his students and himself and serves as an excellent example of a committed and caring teacher and lecturer. Dr Du Plessis treats his students with respect and professionalism. He implements the principles of a humanising pedagogy in his teaching and is always available for students and prepared to go the extra mile.

As Head of Programme of the PGCE programme Dr du Plessis ensures work of a high standard and portrait excellent leadership skills. His leadership style of leading through example serves to keep everybody involved in his team excited and fully committed. He has strong leadership abilities, but is open for suggestions from team members and is accommodating and flexible. He is very innovative and ensures that he stays abreast with new technological and academic developments the whole time. He is an asset to the management team of the Faculty and makes positive and creative suggestions during management meetings.

Dr du Plessis is considered an expert in the fields of Mathematics and Information Computer Teaching. He is very knowledgeable about these subjects and stays abreast of new developments. The students consider Dr du Plessis a very good, organised and highly professional lecturer. He is always fully prepared for lectures and many students see him as a positive role model.

As colleague, Dr du Plessis is always willing to assist with professional and academic tasks and often overload himself in order to assist colleagues. He always acknowledges and comments good work done by other lectures and does not hesitate to give due praise and encouragement.

As friend Dr du Plessis is a true asset as he really cares about other people and is not scared to stand up for his beliefs and values.

I can recommend Dr du Plessis for the award of distinguished teacher without any reservation and my best wishes accompany him.



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