



N E T W O R K

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c o m m u n i c a t i o n s



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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to support Professor Jenna Spevack's promotion to Associate Professor at New York City College of Technology (Citytech). I graduated with honors from Citytech with a Bachelor's Degree in Communication Design in 2007, and now I work as web/graphic designer at a web and graphic design company in Manhattan. I took these classes with Prof. Spevack: AD360 Vector Art, AD550 Web Page Design and Implementation and AD650 Advanced Web Design. I am happy that I took her classes since I learned a lot.

I strongly support Prof. Spevack for the Associate Professor position for the following reasons:

First, Prof. Spevack's classes were clear and organized. On the first day of each course, she provided students with an online syllabus that showed fine description, learning outcomes and weekly topics of the course. I could learn whether the course was right for me and what I could achieve from it. And every week, she prepared an outline of the class on her website. The online outline detailed the topics covered in the class, including a review of the previous week's homework and useful links so I could preview and review by myself whenever I wanted. Even students who missed the class could catch up by reading and practicing the stuff on the website by themselves. Also, the learning steps Prof. Spevack made for the course were well-structured. I could start learning new skills without difficulty, even though I didn't know anything about them before I took her classes. At the end of the course when she gave us our grades, she followed the scale and rubric on her website. Even though some students did an excellent job for the midterm and final project, she didn't give them an A since they didn't participate in class or do homework often. Usually many students get a good grade from her classes, not because she is an easy-A professor, because she tries to do her best to make the learning process easy and fun.

Second, Prof. Spevack's dedication to her classes was huge. She never canceled or came to class late. She always answered students' questions clearly, giving good examples until everybody understood. And she brought extra materials and trivia related with the course to fill students with a variety of knowledge. She also gave us a quiz every class to keep us focused, and we did useful projects such as making a portfolio website or website for a real client to keep us motivated. When I went to her office for help with my project, she was always there and helped me in the best way possible. She also took us to museums for art exhibitions related to the course.

Finally, Prof. Spevack taught me updated and true knowledge. When I was taking her web design classes, she kept telling us to make websites without a "table" and to follow Web Standards. I didn't know why those were so important at the time, but the more I learned about them, the more I understood why. I found out that those were the latest and best methods used in the field. In fact, when I was looking for a job after I graduated, I saw many ads looking for web designers who can make "tableless" websites and understand Web Standards. I am happy and proud that I took Prof. Spevack's classes because I know that there are many web designers who even don't know what those ideas are. When I was showing my website portfolio at job interviews, the interviewers were always impressed by the level of my web design skills. They kept asking me, "Do they teach that much in school these days?" When I had an interview with Cameron Barrett, a pioneering blogger and famous figure in the web field, he looked at my portfolio and said that I was the only one who knew how to make websites correctly, out of other six people whom he interviewed previously.

Those are the major reasons why I strongly support Prof. Spevack. She organizes her classes neatly and clearly so that students can learn new skills with a minimum of difficulty, and she is always there when a student needs a help. She teaches in her classes what is really required in the field, which gives students a better chance to get a job. I have graduated from two different colleges and earned over 230 credits, but I have met only a few professors who have these powerful characteristics.

Please contact me if you would like more information. It would give me great pleasure to speak more about her.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Yong Ih Kim". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Yong Ih Kim