

April 11, 2015

To Whom it May Concern,

I have been working with Dr. Tanya McCoss-Yerigan for the last five years as a cofacilitator in the master's degree learning communities. Tanya is a true professional whom I have had the pleasure to learn from and work with during this time. As the lead facilitator in our learning communities, Tanya effectively creates a positive learning environment while setting the highest standards for our students. In her world, it is necessary to walk the walk in order to teach our students; which means that our students not only receive instruction on best practices in teaching, but they experience it firsthand with Tanya. The environment Tanya creates is that of respect, rigor, and relevance. She believes that our students need to feel comfortable professionally, but also need to be challenged with worthwhile, practical, relevant learning. Our students grow because of their involvement in the environment Tanya has created.

Tanya does not limit her instruction to her students, as she continues to teach me as well. It is because of her encouragement and involvement that I have pursued my doctorate. Like our students, I find working with Tanya to be a growth experience I find immensely valuable. Her professional experience and guidance are characteristics that affect everyone around her. It is impossible to be around Tanya and not get motivated to go out and research how to improve our classrooms. As mentioned, Tanya holds her students and cofacilitators to the highest standards, essentially to be commensurate with her personal standards. The result is a collection of high achieving, successful graduates and cofacilitators. Without Tanya as part of our experience, I do not believe the results would be the same.

Sincerely,

Jay Meiners