



UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT of PUBLIC & COMMUNITY HEALTH

November 10, 2010

Colleagues:

I am delighted to write in support of the promotion of Chuck Allison to full professor. I have served on the Senate for more than two years under Chuck as senate president.

I served for four years on the executive committee of the faculty senate at the University of Utah, so got to observe four different presidents. During the fifteen years I taught leadership in higher education for the Higher Education Resource Services programs I frequently engaged in coaching sessions with senate presidents who were moving into positions as deans, provosts, and presidents. In that capacity I worked with approximately twenty senate presidents a year from the 200 participants from about 175 institutions. I tell you this only to highlight my exposure to different kinds of institutions and different kinds of presidents so you know the filters I may have.

UVU was very fortunate to have Chuck as senate president early in the preparation for and transition into a university. His tireless work representing the faculty on all the policy making bodies was/is enhanced by his ability to frame content to different audiences and to facilitate dialogue about the implications.

Policy changes to bring us from a top-down, arbitrary rules institution into faculty accountability in a shared governance system were the most important steps to be taken in the transition. Had I been a betting woman I would have predicted a minimum of five years before anything substantive got done. That was before I saw Chuck's "put it up on the screen and real-time changes in language" method. The core policies for a mature institution are now in place. I do not believe that could have happened without Chuck's leadership.

My interpretation of the rank of full professor is someone who models the values of the institution and accepts responsibilities of service as well as scholarly activity. I can't imagine a better model of exceptional service than what I have observed from Chuck for more than two years.

Reba L. Keele, Professor of Public and Community Health

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