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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

It is my absolute delight to applaud the contribution that Professor Ed Jacobs has made to the teaching and learning community at the university and beyond, and particularly the impact that his insights and model of teaching has had on my teaching, over the past few years. In his humble, scientific, collaborative way he questioned, investigated and researched the teaching model he was using; designed, experimented, redesigned and successfully implemented a unique model of peer instruction in his chemistry classes; sharing the successes and non-successes throughout the process with the faculty university-wide and eventually world-wide. It was at the annual Teaching and Learning conferences (where Ed shared the process, his experiences, the outcomes and student feedback) that I met Ed and his work and it challenged me to rethink my own model of teaching and to implement some of the methods that Ed has successfully used. That led to me experimenting with peer instruction using group work (using Ed's unique model) and flashcards (Ed's design) to successfully get 158 economics 1 students to learn deeper in 2011. In 2012 we extended this approach to the entire group of second year economics students (430). Ed's door was always open to discuss problems that I encountered and offer advice on how to improve on what I was doing. Several faculties from other universities have since contacted me to share our experience also with them – all as a result of Ed's ground-breaking work and his willingness to share his practices. Ed was also instrumental in inviting Prof Eric Mazur to visit our university last year and impact our way of and views on teaching and learning. I am grateful for Ed's valuable contribution and look forward to continually work with and learn from him.

Sincerely yours

LIEZL NIEUWOUDT