



UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE of SCIENCE & HEALTH

12 February 2009

Dr. Karl Worthington, Interim Associate Vice President  
Academic Affairs

Dr. Bruce Parker, Associate Vice President, Academic Affairs  
For Faculty Affairs

I am pleased to review the application materials of Dianne McAdams-Jones, an Assistant Professor in the UVU Department of Nursing. In my assessment, Ms. McAdams-Jones is progressing admirably toward tenure with a well-defined plan and no deficiencies.

Ms. McAdams-Jones recently completed her masters degree and is currently pursuing her Ph.D. She came to UVU with a wealth of professional experience that greatly enriches the university. Her long and impressive professional record includes employment in various professional-level and supervisory nursing positions in Utah, Pennsylvania, Washington, and North Carolina, and a prior academic appointment as an Assistant Professor at the Tuskegee University in Alabama. Moreover, she served for six years as an active-duty decorated nurse for the United States Army, and continues this service as an active member of the U.S. Army Reserves. This broad background is exceptionally beneficial to our students because she is able to share with them the wide variety of employment opportunities based on her first-hand experiences.

Ms. McAdams-Jones excels in teaching. Her statement on teaching admirably reflects her teaching philosophy: "One of my foremost goals in life is to 'teach what I know and to lead where I go.'" She promotes effective learning with innovative techniques that receive widespread praise from both her students and her peers. Among the many different approaches she employs is the use of mannequins for students to practice hands-on methods as if they were working with a patient. She takes students on field trips to have experiences not available on campus. She sets lecture notes to music to aid students in their study, and she employs games, such as a modification of Bingo, to assist students in learning essential topics. She is well versed in multimedia resources, with much of her course materials available to students electronically, which she regularly updates. She also has provided a window-to-the-world by developing her own e-portfolio, which is available via her professional UVU home page.

A key component of her innovation is careful assessment of these methods. For example, she took a fairly large survey of students regarding the use of music for learning and found that nearly all were favorable toward this approach. She collected comments from students on their field trip to Body Worlds, which were not only positive but contained

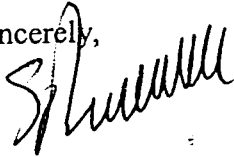
useful information for planning future field trips. Peer assessment of her teaching is also positive.

There is good evidence that Ms. McAdams-Jones is progressing as a scholar. She frequently presents her work both locally and nationally. For example, during 2007, she gave six professional presentations in Utah, Oregon, and Colorado on a broad range of topics, including motivating adult learners, changes in Utah health law, and the ethics of organ transplant procurement. Her professional publications are likewise impressive. She has published recently (2008) in *The American Nurse Today* (2 articles in print and another in review), and in *NLN Perspectives*. She also has received several impressive grants to support her teaching and scholarship. These recent accomplishments offer ample evidence that she is on track to becoming a first-class scholar.

Ms. McAdams-Jones's contributions in service are as varied, pertinent, and innovative as her teaching and scholarship. She played an essential role on the NCAA Certification committee, receiving excellent praise for her work from the Associate Athletic Director. She spent many hours during the summer sewing 120 wraps for sterile packets, saving UVU approximately \$600 in expenses. She served as a judge at the Central Utah Science Fair. She has a special interest in students with diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds. In this area, she formed the English as a Second Language for Asian Students Group. She also wrote a program on diversity, which was submitted to the Utah Nurse's Association for approval of CEU's, which approval was successful. Her work in this area was recently published by the National League for Nursing.

In a mere three years, Ms. McAdams-Jones has established herself as one of our premier faculty members. She brings a wealth of experience, enthusiasm, innovation, and professionalism to the Department of Nursing, the College of Science and Health, and the university. I am pleased to recommend her with commendations and no reservations for her third-year review. She is, without doubt, well on track toward tenure with an excellent track record and plan in place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Rushforth', written in a cursive style.

Sam Rushforth, Dean  
College of Science and Health