

# DEPAUL UNIVERSITY



Office of the First-Year Program  
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Summer 2011

To whom it may concern:

It is my pleasure to write a letter of recommendation for Elizabeth Ann Bryant Richards. For the past four years, Beth Ann has taught a class for DePaul's First-Year Program entitled "The Truth and Beauty of Friendship." This class is a Focal Point Seminar, which we require all first-year students take. Beth Ann's student evaluations have been particularly high in the area of seminar discussion. A typical student comment: "The class discussions were great. Almost everyone contributed to the discussions and I got a lot of different points of view from different students." In the classroom, she sets down serious guidelines and then provides everyone with respect and encouragement. She also is particularly strong in improving student writing in this class, perhaps no surprise considering her credentials as a writing professor. A key element of the Focal Point Seminars is the revision of at least one major paper, and her evaluations were also extraordinarily high in this category.

In addition, she has been an active participant in the Best Practices workshops designed to improve teaching in the Focal Point Seminars. This year the First-Year Program was the focus of a year-long Academic Program Review and Beth Ann served as a crucial participant involved in evaluating the program from a faculty perspective.

Her teaching expertise and warm personality make her the kind of faculty member I am pleased to have teaching for us, and I heartily endorse her.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas A. Long".

Douglas A. Long, Director  
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