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To Abilene Christian University's Tenure and Promotion Committee:

As a former student in Abilene Christian University's Interior Design program and May 2012 graduate, I would like to recommend Professor Brandon Young for tenure and promotion. During my time at ACU I had the privilege of being one of Professor Young's students, as well as working for him as a Peer Leader and with him on my Capstone project in the Honor's college.

Professor Young was an innovative teacher. He challenged us to think beyond the classroom and integrated technology, as well as service. For one project we were able to volunteer with Connecting Caring Communities in building a home out of sustainable earth blocks. I appreciated his projects that pushed us to think beyond current worldview. All of our projects for his classes required research into the type of clientele we would be designing for.

As I mentioned above, I served as a Peer Leader for Professor Young's Freshman Core class. I saw him engage with the students on a more personal level. He not only cared about their education, but also about their faith and transition to college. Through the various discussion topics of the Core class, Professor Young always challenged the students to think for themselves, while providing sound, biblically based advice when needed.

Professor Young was also a mentor to me through various projects. He served on my Honor's Capstone project committee as the Head Chair. He devoted much time and energy outside of classroom hours to helping me succeed in my project. I also approached Professor Young with the idea of starting a service opportunity for interior design students. Even though it was a student led project, his support was vital in the success of Project Merge.

During my time at ACU I often had heard the term, "the ACU difference". In my experience at ACU, it was teachers like Professor Young who made the difference. As a student who was eager to learn, there is nothing better than a teacher who is passionate to teach. Professor Young's investment in my education was crucial to my success at ACU and beyond and I strongly recommend him as a teacher and mentor.

Sincerely,

Haley Powell