

August 29, 2010

Dear Tenure Promotion Committee,

We are three students who have taken several classes under the instruction of Dr. Ehrke: Differential Equations, Calculus II, and Discrete Mathematics. Throughout his classes, we were challenged on multiple levels allowing us to grow into intellectual scholars. Dr. Ehrke required group presentation, real world application, and high expectations both in and out of class.

Working with others is essential in both the academic and professional environments. During the semester of Differential Equations, Dr. Ehrke instituted miniature group projects which required everyone to contribute in order to successfully complete the assignment. These mini-group projects funneled into a larger group final that we presented to the entire class. This project examined a real world problem involving pollution in the Great Lakes, taking our learned differential equation knowledge and applying it.

We began our studies with Dr. Ehrke in Calculus II. His approach in this class was to provide numerous problem examples. From a student's point of view, this was an effective learning strategy. Through this process, we mastered the concepts and fully understood the problems. When we struggled with homework problem, he was always available to guide us even during off hours.

Dr. Ehrke exhibited the same level of commitment in Discrete Mathematics as he did in his other classes. We learned the ways of logic and were given the opportunity to teach the ideas to others in our class weekly. Not only did we learn the math, we also learned how to communicate it which is necessary in the professional arena.

Ultimately, Dr. Ehrke's classes have benefited us and prepared us for professional careers beyond college. His classes contain a healthy balance between lecture, group learning, and independent study. Even though the class is not required, we look forward to taking Partial Differential Equations with him in the Spring. Dr. Ehrke has been one of the most influential professors in our college careers, thus we highly recommend that John be granted tenure because he is the type of teacher ACU needs.

Sincerely,

Brandon Bowen

Mandi Crowder

Walker Nikolaus