



To Whom it May Concern,

Please accept this letter as nomination for Julie Whitehead for the IMPACT Award 2010 – 2011. I met Julie three years ago when I started teaching for Fanshawe College School of Human Services. I knew back then that I had met an incredible person whom to this day continues to impact on me and other faculty alike.

Julie is the Fanshawe Online Administrator for the entire School of Human Services. Julie provides instruction, advice, professional development, guidance, ideas, mentoring, mutual support, back door & front door technological support all with a great sense of humour and patience. As a colleague and professor in the School of Human Services, I experience Julie's enthusiasm and innovation in teaching all the time. She is always striving to enhance her own teaching methodology and support other faculty in her invaluable supporting role.

Most recently at a workshop show casing a new software addition to Fanshawe's Learning Platform, FanshaweOnline, Julie assisted those of us who were unclear about the technological language, she encouraged our confidence and even offered to meet further to enhance the learning process. Additionally, at the workshop, the guest speaker indicated that each school needs a "Champion" of the software". That is exactly what Julie is, a champion. She is very enthusiastic about the training opportunity for professors and this is inspiring. She extends a level of confidence in the team of organizers which encourages commitment and enjoyment in the process. The wonderful outcome Julie identified, "is that when professors' skills may be enhanced, students will benefit". Through the experience Julie validates the extra effort and recognizes the process.

Julie is a very compassionate person and cares about faculty on an individual basis. Computers and operating systems are wonderful, however, when they are not working they can be frustrating and during stressful times such as exams and grading it is even more difficult. Faculty needs are high and Julie responds in a calm and gently way with faculty. Never once in all the time that I have known Julie has she ever appeared frustrated with a Professor, I have never heard her complain, she seems to have an infinite level of patients in assisting adult learners manage and maneuver the online world. Julie never loses sight of the teachable moment, however, can assess that there is a right time for everything.

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She does not engage in rescuing behaviour, rather facilitates problem solving, shares her expertise and leaves the instructors dignity intact. For this alone she is a remarkable woman and role model.

Lastly, it is necessary to share Julie's sense of humour; probably her most valuable asset. Julie's humour is contagious and lightens the atmosphere that contribute to confidence. When the computer won't do what we want it to or we just can't figure it out, we often feel defeated. Julie is the first to have a laugh at the situation, never at you. When she helps you find the humour it helps you feels more available to learn and not personalize the challenge. This is a remarkable personality characteristic Julie has.

These are just a few reasons why I want to nominate Julie Whitehead for the IMPACT Award 2010/2011. For me, she has been an inspiration both as a mentor and role model. She is always very kind and respectful to all faculty and staff. She views difficult situations as challenges and enjoys the process and the learning that arises from them. She is always full of energy and always smiling. If you ask Julie for some time to talk, she never hesitates to set aside what she is doing to talk to you. She is wonderful, inspirational teacher in the lives of so many adult learners, the faculty. She has impacted so many in extremely positive ways. She is a favoured member of the team and a treasured colleague!

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