IUPUI

DEPARTMENT OF
ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY
A Purdue University School
Indianapolis

January 12, 2011

Dear Alvin S. Bynum Mentor Award Selection Committee Member:

I urge you to select Chris Maroldo as the 2011 recipient of the Alvin S. Bynum Mentor Award. Chris is an exceptional person whose tremendous efforts are a source of strength for both his students as well as faculty, like me, who sometimes get discouraged with student progress. His unwavering student devotion is complemented by his calm presence and comfortable communication style. He is able to state the vital truth without being threatening or indifferent. Chris has an amazing gift to connect with students.

As a University College faculty member, learning community instructor and member of the College's APPC committee, I am pleased to describe for you the multifaceted impact of the efforts of Chris.

- In the learning community classroom, he connects with the participants, gently and clearly explains his expectations. He attends each class, regardless of the incredible workload in his office and gives the class his undivided attention. His presentations are always targeted and useful and he has my undying gratitude for his exceptional contributions to the learning team. I have participated in the learning community associated with the technology programs in our school since the inception. I have worked with many instructional team advisors. The effort Chris puts forth to connect to our students is exemplary.
- As a member of the APPC committee, Chris makes a significant and vital contribution to the discussion regarding policies which are aimed at retention efforts. Chris has collected data regarding student success and commonly presents this information to the committee as a tool in policy creation. As an engineer, I am deeply appreciative of the data he adds to our discussion, to form a cornerstone of the committee's decision making.
- As a faculty member, there can be moments when student success seems unattainable, unreachable and our actions without impact. I am so fortunate to have been asked by Chris to participate in the STAR mentoring program. This one on one connection helps me re-energize my love of teaching and supports at risk students (almost all first year, in my experience) in a profound way. I am certain others will document the technical successes of the STAR program with statistics. I would like to assist the committee in an understanding of its personal impact. Designed to mentor students, the connections fostered by the STAR program go far beyond academic support. Students witness the commitment of Chris to their academic success. He upholds academic standards and encourages students to reach very high. This truly is an amazing program.
- Our campus has undergone profound philosophical evolution over the last ten years. Administrative personnel changes have opened debate about the primary mission of this university. Throughout these changes, I have witnessed the firm stance to support

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student success, first and foremost, that is the foundation of the daily efforts of Chris Maroldo.

I am grateful for your consideration of Chris' application. The impact of his efforts to support student success is measured by statistics and reflected in the passion of my nomination. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Christe

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