



College of Education
SciTEC

May 3, 2022

To: The Louisiana Tech University Senate Awards Committee:

I truly appreciate the honor of being nominated for the Louisiana Tech University Loyalty Award-Unclassified. It has been an honor and a pleasure to work at Tech in the College of Education for over sixteen years. However, before becoming a full time employee, I worked with Louisiana Tech and Science and Technology Education Center (SciTEC) on a part-time basis for approximately 4 years. As you can see, I enjoy working for Louisiana Tech and certainly the individuals I am privileged to work with.

My current position is Associate Director of SciTEC and this position provides me opportunities to work with faculty and staff from numerous colleges on campus. SciTEC is a unique part of the College of Education, and as associate director, I have helped write and serve as director and co-director for over 20 grants and this provided me the opportunity to work with leaders from numerous colleges here on the Tech campus. Through these grants, I have been able to be a part of the UTeachTech program and have served as Co-director and instructor allowing me to be an integral part of those students' lives. I have served as instructor for the Freshman Year Experience class and this allowed me to meet students and help to guide their freshman year to a successful beginning.

Associate Director of SciTEC is not always an 8-5 job. We are part of the federally funded national initiative, the Louisiana Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (Louisiana GEAR UP) grants, a program of the Board of

Regents and Louisiana Office of Student Financial Assistance that allows institutions of higher learning to create partnerships with high-poverty middle or high schools. Through these partnership grants, SciTEC has been instrumental in working with students from all over Louisiana through in person and since COVID virtual camps thus introducing the students to the wonderful opportunities that Louisiana Tech has to offer them for their future education. These programs/camps require us to work with not only our admissions offices but all areas and colleges here at Tech. There are very few colleges, if any here that I have not worked in some capacity with our GEAR UP programs.

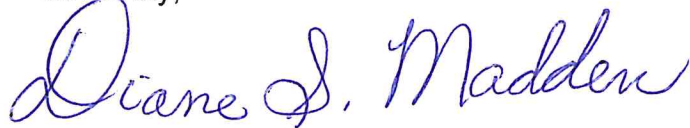
I have been a part of numerous other federal flow through grants with the Louisiana Systemic Initiative Programs (LaSIP) and this provided me opportunities to work with faculty and staff from other colleges on campus, as well as educators in public and private schools around the state. Through LaSIP I served as instructors for numerous courses that were offered through SciTEC for educators who became students in our graduate programs at Tech.

All of these opportunities involved numerous hours of preparation and presentations and required me to work not just 9 hours per day but many nights and weekends. I always try to deliver the best product that I can because I believe that my job allows me to be affective in influencing how our educators and students are prepared to teach or attend college and become a bulldog. My goal is to provide opportunities for Louisiana Tech faculty to be involved with prospective students and therefore introduce future Bulldogs to the great opportunities that Louisiana Tech University can provide for their future.

Tech pride was instilled in me from birth. My father was a share cropper in Claiborne parish and desired a college degree. Encouraged by my mother to reach out to the college in Ruston—Louisiana Polytechnic Institute, he traveled in a borrowed car to Ruston and was given the opportunity to attend Tech and work as a grounds keeper

while receiving his degree in education. I always heard the story of how the President of the College gave him the break he needed. It was his goal to make sure that his daughters would be educated at Tech and be Bulldogs. I never knew that there was another college because Tech was as much my home as theirs. I met and married a Bulldog and our three sons graduated from Louisiana Tech. I now am fortunate enough to have two grandchildren who are Bulldogs and more to follow in their footsteps. Yes, I bleed red and blue and am an ever loyal Bulldog full of Louisiana Tech Pride. As you can see, I would be extremely honored to receive the Loyalty Award from such a prestigious university as Louisiana Tech University.

Sincerely,



Diane S. Madden

Associate Director, SciTEC (Science and Technology Education Center)

College of Education

Louisiana Tech University

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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

Dear Colleagues,

I am writing in support for Mrs. Daine Madden and her nomination for the Louisiana Tech Loyalty Award recognized through the Louisiana Tech Senate. As an Academic Director in the College of Engineering and Science and a professor in the Mathematics and Statistics Program, I have had the pleasure of knowing Diane for over a decade. In this time Diane has repeatedly demonstrated her passion in supporting the academic enterprise through her many years of service to our students, pre-service and in-service teachers, and the faculty of Louisiana Tech. Diane's excellence is at the core of her desire to see every student have every opportunity to succeed.

For many years now, Diane and I have discussed our mutual desire to create environments where students can succeed. Recognizing early that Diane is an academically-minded person who understands both the point of view of the faculty and the students, it has been very easy to call upon Diane when we have a need – from questions on professional development to logistics of various experiences we create for teachers. As an example, a few years ago, several of us in the College of Engineering and Science had been leading a workshop where middle school students are taken through the process of building their own computer. Our colleagues in the College of Education learned about this project and we began collaborating on the expansion of the program. Diane was critical to this expansion and helped facilitate and coordinate the use of the Claiborne Building (headquarters of the Board of Regents and UL-System) in Baton Rouge so that we could showcase the collaboration between multiple colleges, across multiple school systems – thus, encouraging students who otherwise had no knowledge of Louisiana Tech to consider their future as part of our university. If it did not violate privacy laws, we could list numerous students who have been directly impacted by Diane's efforts, many who have good memories of Louisiana Tech because Diane goes the extra mile every time she is faced with an opportunity to serve. This award will recognize and give honor to her active engagement in meeting the needs of students and faculty.

Diane's humble approach to helping others achieve is something that she would not want anyone to recognize publically. Through her consistency to help us solve real problems and meet challenges that impact our students and their families, I have observed her passion for meeting needs and challenges in the lives of others. Through numerous activities, she has established a network of colleagues across campus through which she

is able to serve others efficiently. I know she is excited about the growing collaborative efforts across campus and with the City of Ruston, and I believe she is poised to help further enhance the overall academic enterprise of the university as we go forward.

I believe that Diane is one of the most loyal members of the university community. From solving problems for students, to answering questions of faculty; from building relationships with teachers across the regions, to going the extra mile with students; Diane demonstrates every day how proud she is of Louisiana Tech and all that it represents. She is realistic yet enthusiastic – encouraging others to see beyond what they imagine for themselves.

Please consider that Diane has my highest recommendation, and I will be glad to answer any questions directly should you consider that necessary.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Galen E. Turner III", with a horizontal line extending from the end of the signature.

Galen E. Turner III, Ph.D.

Maxfield Professor of Mathematics & Statistics
Academic Director for Mathematics & Statistics
and Computational Analysis & Modeling
Louisiana Tech University



LOUISIANA TECH UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

April 28, 2022

University Senate Staff Subcommittee Chair
Loyalty Award for Unclassified Employees

Dear Subcommittee Chair:

I am writing in support of Ms. Diane Madden's nomination for the Loyalty Award for Unclassified Employees. I have known of Ms. Madden's contributions to Louisiana Tech for years, and I strongly support her nomination.

Diane and I have been involved in over a dozen professional development projects for science teachers in North Louisiana. Most of these were conducted on Louisiana Tech's campus, but we also traveled to schools in Ouachita Parrish. She not only helped me develop materials and activities for the workshops, she was very instrumental in writing the proposals which eventually funded them.

Conducting these workshops was very labor intensive. The daily meetings usually involved both morning and afternoon sessions and went for two weeks at a time. Ms. Madden was a trooper for it all. She arrived at least an hour early and usually stayed an hour late. She led many of the activities herself, graded hundreds of papers, and helped me keep organized. Because of her devotion, our projects ran smoothly and were very well evaluated by the teacher participants.

Diane also collected a great deal of feedback and assessments for each project. This was a huge help in writing final reports to the funding agencies. Ms. Madden worked tirelessly from beginning to end. I can't count the number of times I've called her needing something done. She always dropped whatever she was doing and took care of business right then.

In short I highly recommend Diane Madden for this award. She demonstrated loyalty many times over, often working for more hours than she was paid.

Yours,

William C. Deese
Johnson Professor of Chemistry

A MEMBER OF THE UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA SYSTEM

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AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY UNIVERSITY



May 3, 2022

To: The Louisiana Tech University Senate Awards Committee

It is a joy to provide this letter of support for Diane Madden, Associate Director for the Science and Technology Education Center (SciTEC), as a candidate for the Loyalty Award. Having known Diane for more than thirty years, working with her as colleagues in science education and collaborating with her on multiple projects and programs to support teachers, I feel I have a keen sense of her dedication to her profession as well as the mission and vision of this university.

Diane is one of those individuals who avoids the spotlight but is an essential part of the foundation with any team with which she works. A dependable, committed independent thinker, she immediately sees how she can help create an environment that allows everyone else to perform at the highest levels while achieving maximum success. Diane can spot a gap in planning and knows how to ask the right questions to be sure there is a seamless delivery of services and support. Her unflinching desire to achieve excellence with everything she tackles makes her a game-changer on whatever team she serves.

Due to the nature of the work within SciTEC, Diane is required to not only reach across disciplines throughout the Tech campus, she is also charged with creating and nurturing partnerships throughout every imaginable stakeholder pool within Louisiana. She does it with a spirit that embodies each of the Tenets of Tech, something that allows Tech to shine through each measure of her efforts. Diane's ability to juggle multiple initiatives while honoring the diversity and unique view represented within each is truly inspiring and something for which Tech should be proud.

Since returning to Tech as the Director of its SCILS Region 8 LaSTEM Center, I have worked very closely with Diane. During that time she has elevated my ability to achieve the goals set forth by the Board of Regents and the LaSTEM Network as well as those established within SciTEC and the College of Education. She is the first to volunteer and has gone above and beyond to help me get this new program off the ground. There is no way we would have been able to achieve what we have over the past 12 months had it not been for Diane, her energy and expertise and her desire to see that while our Center shines, Tech is recognized for its visionary leadership and vision. It is a commitment she demonstrates daily.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention how Diane supports others whether on campus or not. During the past year I have endured two significant family crises while still working to maintain my SCILS work. Without hesitation, Diane offered to assist with anything

SciTEC – College of Education
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that needed to be done; without prompt, she stepped in to assure there were no gaps in services rendered on behalf of SCILS and the university. I was able to maintain my focus on my family while resting assured that the SCILS work and its initiatives continued and those involved served. Although at a distance, her gracious, generous and consistent presence made such a difference. It's the type of relationship-driven commitment that should be celebrated on this campus.

Diane truly works daily to be sure others shine. This continues after hours and on weekends. She's someone you know you can count on and you rest easy knowing that her presence, whether on the front lines or behind the scenes, is going to make everything better. It's something she has done for this campus and its people for years upon years now.

Therefore, because of her ongoing dedication to go above and beyond the norm in order to provide services at the highest level, for the way she has consistently demonstrated excellence in multiple methods of service to Louisiana Tech, for her willingness to effectively collaborate with others across this campus in order to meet the needs of students, faculty and staff, and for her unwavering loyalty that exudes Tech pride, I am both pleased and honored to offer Diane Madden my heartiest recommendation as the recipient of the Louisiana Tech University Senate Loyalty Award. I urge you to give her your strongest consideration, confident that you will find her to be an outstanding representative and recipient of the award.



Cathi Cox-Boniol
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