

**VOLUNTEER
STATE**



**COMMUNITY
COLLEGE**

**Office of the
Vice President for
Student Services**

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Main Campus

1480 Nashville Pike
Gallatin, TN 37066-3188
615-452-8600
1-888-335-VSCC (8722)

Vol State at Livingston

113 Windle Community Rd
Livingston, TN 38570
931-823-7065
1-800-563-8220

Vol State at Highland Crest

150 Laureate Avenue
Springfield, TN 37172
615-433-7030
1-855-724-8722

**Vol State at Cookeville
Higher Education Campus**

1000 Neal Street
Cookeville, TN 38501
931-372-5540

15723-40 Volunteer State
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policies: Title IX Coordinator,
1480 Nashville Pike,
Gallatin, TN 37066,
615-230-3592.

Dear Hiring Manager,

I would like to take this opportunity to write my letter of support for Dr. Jonathan Michelin for your position of adjunct faculty in education and HDEV. I had the pleasure of working with Dr. Michelin, or better as the entire campus knew him Dr. J, during my time at Eastfield College in Dallas, TX. In my role as Coordinator of the First Year Experience, Dr. J was my direct contact to faculty and helped to lead and guide the program that was created at Eastfield College. He was instrumental in getting cultural buy-in for our new initiative over 5 years ago.

As an instructor, Dr. J was always well received by students and consistently had excellent ratings on his end of year evaluations. Additionally, Dr. J went out of his way to assist and connect with the students on a regular basis, even creating a weekly basketball game in the mornings between faculty/staff and students so that the students could get to know us outside of the classroom and feel a greater sense of belonging.

I am pleased to note that this intentional relationship building resulted in many students graduating and a 15% increase in retention for students that were in the program he helped craft and lead when compared to students not in the program. Further, Dr. J's attention to the needs of his students lead him to write a low cost textbook for the course in an effort to ensure that money was not a barrier to the student's desire to gain an education.

In my 15 year higher education career, there is no faculty I can recommend more than Dr. J. If you are lucky enough to have him on your campus you will understand why. He is an amazing teacher whose heart is centered on student success. I wish I could get him to join me in Tennessee.

If you have any additional questions or I can be of any further assistance, please feel free to reach out to me.

Sincerely yours,

Kyle Barron, EdD
Assistant Vice President Student Services
Volunteer State Community College