

To whom it may concern,

I have known Allison Hetzel for over a year now and have interacted with her extensively in her capacity as my acting and voice instructor. During my courses, I have come to know Allison very well and therefore can comment on some aspects of her teaching and advising.

Allison is one of the most thoughtful, passionate, and understanding teachers I have had the pleasure of training under in my time here at the Capestone. She is an invaluable asset to the Department of Theatre and Dance. An important aspect of Allison's character is her devotion and commitment to each and every student she interacts with. Whether its coaching students during class, giving thoughtful advice during her office hours, or simply being a friendly face in the building, Allison gives her full attention and honest feedback which I have always greatly appreciated.

In my personal academic career, Allison has been a great resource. Allison sets herself apart from the rest because she has been a theatre student herself. She often recounts her time as a Graduate student or her time working in and around the theatre scene of Chicago. The stories she tells have always been a reminder that in order to be a successful graduate of this University, I needed to start thinking about the ways in which we can apply what we are learning in class to our future careers outside of UA.

Allison often reminds us that it is never too early to start thinking about life after UA. Most teachers I've had are only focused on teaching their subject but Allison teaches us to be well-rounded individuals that are prepared for the next chapter in our lives and not just the next exam.

Allison is always asking us questions. "How would you respond in this situation?", "Do you think your character knows what's happened?", "What is the subtext? What are you really trying to say?" Over time, I've learned to ask myself these questions and what more could I ask for than a teacher that trains her students to be able to find the answers themselves and not rely on an instructor to always be there to ask the questions. After completing her courses, I am confident I am able to continue to grow as a theatre professional on my own. Allison's passion for teaching is apparent in her dedication to her students and to the department. Therefore, I fully support a promotion of Allison Hetzel to Full Professor.

Sincerely,

Megan Giangarra
BA, Theatre '19