



January 29, 2004

To Whom It May Concern:

My professional association with Karen Millar started when I was a participant in an online Grant, "Exploring Chemistry on the Web" authored by Prof. Charles (Chuck) Wight in the amount of \$160,000. Part of the grant funds was for the "web master," which resulted in the hiring of Karen Millar after Prof. Wight interviewed several candidates.

She had a very challenging situation to set up the web site from scratch for the three courses that would be set up initially. This was a pioneering experience since these were the first online courses ever offered by the University of Utah (The definition of online course is a student may take the course anywhere in the world without ever setting foot on campus). I being totally computer illiterate had to rely completely on Karen's knowledge and ability. She did a marvelous job of keeping all the balls in the air. Naturally, there arose many problems as the project was navigated through the shoals of the Internet, and there were many deadlines that had to be met. Karen was able to solve them one by one until the site was operating almost flawlessly. Later, I added another course, and with the help of Karen we were again successful.

Another project Karen did for me was to setup an online site for collecting information from graduate teaching assistants and assigning them their teaching loads. We employ 50 to 80 graduate-teaching assistants each semester, and we need their schedules to accomplish this end. With this information we are able to assign them to the approximate 100 discussions and labs for the 2000 registered students. Some of advantages that Karen programmed into the system are as follows. One, the graduate students may edit their schedules as changes occurred. Two, we are able to edit the class schedule as it changed. Three, I am able to carry on all the correspondence on the Internet, which has made this difficult job so much easier.

I highly recommend Karen Millar and the only regret is that I had to share her talents and time with other faculty. If you had any questions, feel free to contact me at the address below.

Sincerely,

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