



*division of Social Sciences*

July 31, 1985

Personnel Office  
Solano Community College  
Suisun City, CA 94585

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing on behalf of Dr. Peter Haiman, who is an applicant for the position of Instructor of Early Childhood Education. Dr. Haiman has been teaching for Chabot College this summer in a noncredit series on productive parenting. He gave an introductory lecture to about seventy students, and is now meeting in a six-week series with two groups of about thirty each. I have observed Dr. Haiman, both in the lecture setting and in the smaller discussion groups, and my comments below are based on those observations.

Dr. Haiman was a lively lecturer, and engaged the interest of the large group during the entire ninety minutes of my observation. He worked from an outline of conceptual material, while inviting student questions and comments throughout, applying the material to concrete situations presented by the students. In the discussion groups, he used basically the same approach, but with even greater student involvement. He exhibited great skill at directing the students' attention to the key developmental tasks of children, while creating an environment in which the parents could speak freely. He handled potentially tricky situations involving the parents' child rearing techniques, or conflicts among the parents, with gentle sympathy for the difficulties of child rearing, and continual reference back to childrens' developmental tasks.

Dr. Haiman produced a fine blending of conceptual information with experiential learning. He encouraged students to build their thinking skills along with their parenting skills, through his use of the notion of "parent as detective," and the systematic and objective observation which that requires. He struck a balance between student contribution to the discussion and his own suggestions, illustrations and applications of the conceptual material.

I consider Dr. Haiman an exceedingly able instructor, and look forward to using his talents here again.

Sincerely,

Dr. Victoria Morrow  
Division Chair

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