



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
SYDNEY

**Associate Professor Mark Freeman**

*Deans Unit*

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**Supporting Reference for Giuseppe Carabetta  
Applicant for Wayne Lonergan Outstanding Teaching Award**

Giuseppe is an exemplary teacher at multiple levels both in and out of the classroom. He takes the responsibility for teaching very seriously. He has coordinated various undergraduate and postgraduate units including a large first-year foundations business law unit with a high proportion of international students. Wherever I come across him interacting with students it is obvious he cares about his students and their learning and that they value this. In addition to actively supporting a large group of casual tutors to be effective, Giuseppe seeks to incorporate as much support he can possibly garner to help them learn (e.g. extra workshops on critical thinking, plagiarism prevention, MASUS literacy diagnostic and mobile learning technologies).

As Associate Dean (Learning and Teaching) I regularly heard positive feedback from peer mentors and peer learning facilitators about his enthusiasm and inspiring teaching, recounting that he is a highly interactive lecturer able to relate theory to practice and 'really knowledgeable'. Several occasions when calls for anonymous nominations for this award were announced he received the highest number of nominations. I understand this occurred in 2011 also. Formal USE data of units he coordinated consistently showed scores with over 90% agreement, well above School averages. This is no small feat particularly in large, diverse, first-year classes.

As it was clear that Giuseppe was doing something right, I was keen to incorporate his experience into various teaching initiatives. One initiative involved developing several exemplar videos (e.g. large group teaching). The 'first lecture' video has been discussed at various school and university workshops including the ITL's P&P program. Importantly it has attracted significant outside interest with over 6000 U-tube views and links to it from other websites assisting newer academics.

I am particularly impressed with Giuseppe's commitment to help colleagues and see teaching improved within and beyond the Discipline. Examples would be his willingness to engage in peer review, particularly with new colleagues within the discipline and his active involvement in various school programs (e.g. tutor development program), events (e.g. orientation), and committees (e.g. learning and teaching; online unit of study; tutoring and teaching awards; and academic selection). Not only is he a regular mentor in the School's academic mentoring program, but a number of his mentees have gone on to win deans citations and school teaching awards. His pedagogical research, particularly his collaborative research on mobile learning and the use of short-format podcasts, extends that influence beyond the University.

Giuseppe's capabilities have been recognised within and beyond the School. Giuseppe has been a recipient of the vice chancellors teaching award and an ALTC citation. Following a peer review, ALTC award winner A/Professor Rosina Mladenovic nominated Giuseppe for this award noting: "Applying a 'law-in-action' approach, he effortlessly relates course materials and learning to the reality of students' lives and experiences, to contemporary events, and to the reality of society and the workplace. Students 'get it' and are with him all the way".

In conclusion, I recommend Giuseppe Carabetta as a most worthy recipient of the Wayne Lonergan Award for Outstanding Teaching.

Yours sincerely,

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