



## LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY

DEPARTMENT OF THEATRE ARTS  
711 E BOLDT WAY SPC 14  
APPLETON WI 54911-5699

9/18/2020

I write to recommend inviting Dr. Tobin to your institution. He has launched us on a path to implement UDL across our campus, and done so in a variety of ways. Due to COVID 19, both our Keynote and follow-up Q & A with the author had to be on Zoom, but that didn't lessen the effectiveness or impact at all. Attendees of that first Keynote left ready to implement a change, and we're now putting those in place during the term and are ready to assess the impact. We also had two groups of faculty who read his book and met for discussion multiple times over the summer; the book consistently guided us to engaged and applied conversations, and led us to connect with our Accommodations Specialist, as well as our Instructional Designer. His Q & A was a great follow-up that provided impetus to complete changes, as well as a launch pad for our fall term with questions answered by the expert. As we continue to build on the UDL work, Dr. Tobin is so active in his own work that it's easy to build on his presentation, not only with his book, but with connections he's helped us make, and other projects that include references to him, like a book on online teaching that includes UDL approaches. In other words, his presentations and ongoing work support campus-wide programming with real outcomes.

Not only are the materials and ideas Dr. Tobin presents compelling, he's also highly skilled at delivering his message . . . and I do mean HIGHLY skilled. When working with a group, he's a pro at facilitating discussion: moving through the material for coverage, getting more voices involved, staying on topic, and keeping discussion sidelines relevant to the topic. In the world-of-Zoom, he does all this by simultaneously attending to participants with video or audio on, the chat function, and navigating the slides he's created in support. He's also a complete pro during the planning process, and engaging on a collegial level. He anticipates what sort of information the host school might need, and sends timely updates, including invoices to reflect payments. He literally halves the administrative work necessary to host a speaker. In addition, I really enjoyed our planning meetings; he engaged me as a professional colleague AND completed our business in time-efficient ways. I highly recommend contracting with Dr. Tobin, and adding him to your circle of professional colleagues.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Kathy L. Privatt".

Kathy L. Privatt  
Chair, Inclusive Pedagogy Committee  
Assoc. Prof. of Theatre Arts