

# Matthew Bollinger

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## References

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### **Tom Davis, Assistant to the President (former Provost)**

NAVAJO TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

"Matthew Bollinger did not work directly for me at Navajo Technical University, but as Provost I was responsible for administrative oversight of the IT department where the Webmaster was housed. I was also on the interview committee that hired Matthew.

Before Matthew took the position at Navajo Tech, the website, although functional, was poorly designed both artistically and technically. After a year of Matthew's effort that was no longer true. Matthew's skill as an artist and web designer was clearly superior to the skills possessed by his predecessors. In addition to his web design abilities he also taught courses for the university, and one of the remarkable things about him is that he was able to translate his design and technical skills into a teaching methodology that was extremely effective with students.

I thought, throughout Matthew's tenure, that he was conscientious, hardworking, and disciplined in all of his tasks. He also got along well with the students in his classroom, the students who assisted him with the web site, faculty, and administrators. Anyone familiar with the operation of technology on a campus knows how important, and rare, this particular skill can be.

I can certainly give Matthew my highest recommendation for whatever position he chooses to pursue in the future."

### **Casmir Agbaraji, Dean of Undergraduate Studies**

NAVAJO TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY

"I am very pleased to recommend Mr. Matthew Bollinger for a faculty position. Matthew is a great asset, and he did a very good job when he taught Web Standards, Advanced CSS, etc at Navajo Technical University as an adjunct instructor. It was a real honor to witness Matthews's work ethic, and it was a great joy to work with him. Mathew is very detail-oriented and produced great results. It is clear to me as I hope it is to you that Mr. Bollinger is an exceptional candidate. I enthusiastically recommend him for a faculty position to teach Web Standards, Advanced CSS, Art, Design, Technology, etc."

## **Christopher Mead, Emeritus Regents' Professor**

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

"Matthew's first academic training is in studio arts, with a concentration in painting and drawing: he earned his B.A.F.A. from the Department of Art and Art History at the University of New Mexico in 2002, and he recently received his M.F.A. from the San Francisco Art Institute. But the farther he went in his study of studio arts, the more he realized that his real interests lay in learning how to apply his artistic talents in a more practical, social sphere. After he graduated from UNM, he worked first in Korea as an elementary school English teacher, and then back in New Mexico working for a runaway and homeless youth program, before entering the graduate program in architecture at the University of New Mexico, from which he received his M. Arch. in 2010. Engaging his sense of social responsibility, this professional degree made him aware of how societies act in and through the built environment, especially the urban environment. As my student, Matthew proved himself in several ways: he was disciplined, applying himself consistently and successfully to mastering a large amount of new information about the history of architecture, cities, and the built environment around the world; and he was perceptive and articulate, proving his ability through a series of writing assignments to analyze the significant formal, structural, and functional characteristics of works of architecture, using technical terms appropriately while identifying and defining larger conceptual and critical issues. Given his combination of artistic talent, sense of social responsibility, and critical intelligence, I am confident that Matthew will do well in his chosen career."

## **Efthimios Maniatis, Lecturer of Architecture**

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

"Over the past seven years, I have taught a variety of undergraduate and graduate courses at the School of Architecture and Planning. Currently, I am teaching Introduction to Architecture. My position in the school is to inspire and give a sense of reality regarding the practice of architecture.

Matthew was a student of mine years ago. He went away for further art education in San Francisco, then came back to pursue an advanced degree in architecture. His presentations are always exceptional, as they indicate a process of thinking that reflects both fields.

For Matthew, process is his mantra; he creates it through his solutions to a design or drawing problem that an instructor or himself sets forward. This approach is unique because it frees him from the conventions of art and architecture and allows him to uniquely push ideas. That is why he is a good teacher, because he asks his students to go further from the known.

As a Teaching Assistant, Matthew helped me to expand my horizons and become a better instructor. We developed assignments and assessed students together, and he often ran lectures on his own. I was always comfortable that my students were in good hands. He is already a teacher.

Matthew is a well read, aware and skillful person. His expectations of himself are so high that he is often hard on himself. We need people like him teaching. He reminds me of Philip Glass who I knew when I was living in New York City. Mr. Glass is more than the few notes he is playing."

## **Kramer Woodard, Associate Professor of Architecture**

UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO

"It is with great pleasure I write this letter recommending Matthew Bollinger to you for a position in your organization. I have known Matthew and his work for the past 7 years and consider him to be an exemplary "student" of architecture, artist and educator. My initial contact with him was at the University of New Mexico in the Master of Architecture program which he completed at a level that distinguished him from others in his class. Matthew is a mature designer who returned to studies in design following many years of work as an artist. In the studio, I found him to be a serious designer whose work is rigorously executed at every level.

An ace draftsman, craftsman and web designer, Matthew has a strong command of the mediums of design. He is articulate and always added an alternative dimension to the classroom discussion.

Matthew is a consciences individual who is interested in questions rather than answers. His projects set out to re-examine the relation of society to the built environment. This exploration is not simply based on formal values, rather he strives to understand social issues that can influence architecture. This is useful because Matthew understands that to build with integrity means that humanity must be at the forefront of the process of design.

I strongly urge you to consider Matthew Bollinger for the position he seeks, he will prove himself to be an asset to your organization now and certainly in the future.”