



Department of Mass Communications

March 3, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

I have enjoyed working with Allison Floyd in several capacities over the last two decades. I have come to know her as an outstanding writer and storyteller, a respected leader to youth and young adults, and a strong and patient editor with a passion for fostering young writers.

I first knew Allison when I was news editor for The Walton Tribune in Monroe, Georgia, and she was a reporter at the Athens Banner-Herald. As a fellow journalist, I was highly impressed with her thorough writing and reporting skills. She was a star reporter at my hometown newspaper, and I immediately became a fan. In my next role as director of the Georgia Scholastic Press Association — the statewide organization for high school media — I discovered that she is a well-respected writer and storyteller and an excellent teacher. Allison would teach several sessions at our annual GSPA Conference, helping hundreds of young writers grow in their craft. Through these interactions, I recognized how good Allison was as a teacher and editor. She possesses the perfect amount of patience yet maintains a high standard of accountability for her students, pushing them to be their best. Her sessions were always among the highest rated by students at the conference.

When an opening came up for a youth and young adult coordinator at my church, and I was charged with leading the search, I was thrilled when Allison expressed interest in the job. I had no idea that she mentored young people in another capacity outside of writing. Allison took our fledging program and turned it into a vibrant mission of our church — she made young people want to attend church on a Sunday evening. Her impact was personal for me as she mentored all three of my boys as they entered young adulthood. Allison has that unique ability to reach a younger generation of people while still maintaining an aura of respect.

As a college mass communications professor for the past decade, I always knew that Allison would be an outstanding media professor. Her significant media experience, outstanding journalistic capabilities, and remarkable ability to reach young adults make her an ideal candidate to teach at the collegiate level. I only wish we had an opening in our department so I could hire her. I know she will be an outstanding professor and a tremendous asset to students and the institution that hires her.

Please feel free to contact me at 706-296-3832 or jdennis@piedmont.edu with any questions.

Sincerely,

Joe Dennis, Ph.D
Chair and Associate Professor, Department of Mass Communications
Piedmont University