

P.O. Box 1144
Sanibel, FL 33957
October 25, 2013

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with special pleasure that I write this letter of recommendation on behalf of Eric Johnston (Frederick L. Johnston III).

I have followed Eric's career since he was a graduate student of mine at Emerson College in 1983. His c.v. lists his accomplishments; I will add to it by emphasizing key aspects.

Eric has been on the cutting edge of media communications, including their applications to education, even before he founded the Pangaea Multimedia Communications Corporation. He has not only completed projects for important professional and commercial clients, but for educational institutions as well. He has concentrated on making student learning more efficient, effective and easier—for both the student and the educator. One of his principal areas is developing systems and programs for distance learning for elementary, secondary and higher education, and for adult learners.

His work in teaching children about media and communications has been in the vanguard of the sub-categories of online collaboration, distance learning and publishing, video production, and broadcasting within the larger areas of educational technology. His teaching reflects the best approaches in using a design-and-problem-solving process. He has applied his approaches to developing curricula for middle and high school students. He motivates students to use creative out-of-the-box thinking to come up with real world solutions to issues and problems.

Eric has an open, friendly, outgoing personality; he is a highly collegial and cooperative colleague. He is loyal to his commitments and highly dependable in completing projects. He speaks well and writes well (I have used several of his essays on media in the current and past editions of one of my textbooks, *Writing for Television, Radio, and New Media*).

Eric Johnston would be an invaluable asset to any educational institution. His extensive world travels have helped prepare him to make making special contributions to non-U.S. schools, if he decides to teach abroad. His wife, Dr. Deborah Smith Johnston, is internationally experienced as a master teacher in world history and geography. As a couple, they would be invaluable to an educational institution, here or abroad.

To validate my assessments of Eric Johnston, I should note that I have a Ph.D. in educational communications, have been a college Dean of Graduate Studies and a Dean of Continuing Education, served as Chief of Educational Broadcasting at the Federal Communications Commission, and as Chair of the Federal Interagency Media Committee in Washington, D.C., did post-doctoral work at Teachers College, Columbia University, and am the author of over 30 media textbooks.

Do not hesitate to let me know if I can be of further assistance in your evaluation of Eric Johnston.

Sincerely,

Robert L Hilliard

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