



UNIVERZA V LJUBLJANI  
UNIVERSITAS LABACENSIS



PRAVNA FAKULTETA  
FACULTAS IURIDICA

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Prodekan  
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Ms. Peggy Flores,  
Senior Administrative Assistant to the Vice Provost Dr. James E. Brink  
Texas Tech University School of Law  
Lubbock, Texas 79409

Re: Professor Susan S. Fortney - Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award – Letter  
of Reference

Dear Ms. Flores:

In your letter of October 21 you informed me that Professor Susan Fortney had listed me as a reference in her nomination for the Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award. I am pleased to give the following reference regarding her teaching and work at our Faculty.

Professor Fortney came to the University of Ljubljana Faculty of Law in February 2001 as a Fulbright Visiting Professor. Since I was the Dean of the Faculty at that time, I was directly involved in arranging her stay. As the topic of her course Professor Fortney proposed legal ethics, i. e. a course that would offer the students "a moral vision providing the foundation needed for tackling daily ethical dilemmas."

We gladly accepted the proposed topic because it filled a gap in our curriculum and especially because the majority of the so-called transitional problems were in some way also problems related to professional ethics. We were convinced that future lawyers had to be able to identify ethical aspects of their work and be sensitive about their broader dimensions. As Dean I was trying to make a course on legal ethics a permanent subject in our curriculum. The course offered by Professor Fortney was therefore an excellent opportunity to see how such a course should be performed.

The title Professor Fortney chose for her course was "Can a Good Person Be a Good Lawyer? Comparative Legal Ethics in a Changing World." Despite the fact that they were given no credits for their participation, it attracted a decent group of young lawyers. The reason for that is in the current system which rigidly lists the non-mandatory courses that can be selected as a recognised part of the curriculum.

In her course Professor Fortney was using not only the Socratic method but introduced some other new methods, too. Among other things she gave our students an opportunity to work together with her students in the US via the Internet. The idea proved excellent and the students were very enthusiastic both about the co-operation and its results. It also clearly demonstrated the need for more such joint projects.

Professor Fortney also helped our team which took part at the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot in Vienna (Austria). The performance of the team was excellent, also because of Professor Fortney's coaching efforts.

Professor Fortney established many contacts with Slovenian lawyers. The Faculty liked and appreciated her personality and her work. Professor Fortney was an excellent ambassador of American legal teaching and legal system.

As the expression of our gratitude and of our commitment to closer co-operation with different legal systems Professor Fortney was awarded the medal of our Faculty. This medal is the highest and the most prestigious award the Faculty can give.

In recent days I informed some of my colleagues about the nomination of Professor Fortney for Chancellor's Distinguished Teaching Award. They were all very supportive. I am therefore enthusiastically endorsing the nomination not only in my own name but in the name of all the Faculty.



Janez Kranjc

Professor of Law, Vice Dean and Dean (from 1995-2001)