



January 17, 2023

Personnel Committee:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Dr. Brianne Borden for reappointment as Assistant Professor at the Crane School of Music – SUNY Potsdam. Brianne was hired while I was Performance Department Chair and she and I have worked closely in the brass area since 2020. I am impressed daily by her dedication to students, professional dealings with colleagues, commitment to high performance standards, and willingness to adapt to the needs of the school.

Brianne is an outstanding musician. She has maintained a busy schedule, including in-person and virtual clinics, faculty performances, recruitment engagements, and conference presentations. She has performed exceptionally with the Potsdam Brass Quintet and has been a strong contributor to the Orchestra of Northern New York and Northern Symphonic Winds. Working closely with her in the brass quintet is particularly enjoyable. Her strengths include a great sound, strong technique, and outstanding listening skills. She adjusts to her colleagues, making performance enjoyable and artistically rewarding. She has made an outstanding impression in every way at Crane.

Brianne has quickly gained the respect of the trumpet studio and it was easy to hear improvements in her students. The strongest students have seamlessly continued to make great progress and she has established great basics with her young students. The studio is vibrant and reflects the personality of their teacher who is enthusiastic, engaged, and available. She is sensitive to the needs of her students and has spearheaded a valuable wellness initiative to all Crane students. Her Musician's Wellness class has filled quickly and usually has a wait list of many students. Brianne has a substantial background in Yoga coupled with an astute awareness of the mental health needs of musicians that are an extraordinary asset to our students and faculty. I have observed her teaching and I find her to be a skillful diagnostician and an empowering coach. I expect strong successes from her students.

Brianne is already hard at work in service to the school. She has served on committees, been the brass area coordinator, and organized recruitment trips for herself and PBQ. She has helped facilitate the hire of two trumpet teachers (Buddy Deshler and Dr. Luke Spence) and ensured their transition to our faculty was smooth and positive for our students. She has strong administrative skills, is a diligent worker, and loves Crane. As an alumna, her connections to other alumni have helped with recruitment and she has been a valuable resource in her role on

the Crane Alumni Board. She has also served as the Social Media Coordinator for the Orchestra of Northern New York and recognizes the value of organizations that have strong ties to Crane.

Please review Brianne's materials carefully and you will see that she is a musician of the highest quality, a teacher of great skill, and a colleague of tremendous value. She is a wonderful person who cares deeply for her students and colleagues. I see her as an ideal candidate for reappointment and we are lucky to have her. If you require more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at 315-267-2437 or [guycv@postdam.edu](mailto:guycv@postdam.edu).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Guy', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. Charles Guy  
Professor of Tuba and Euphonium  
Crane School of Music - State University of New York at Potsdam