

Charles Cameron
2947 Corral Canyon
Malibu, CA 90265

March 16th, 1982

Dr. Ken Taylor
Department of Economics
Rollins College
Winter Park, FL 32789

Dear Dr. Taylor,

Dr. Randall L. Eaton has asked me to write to you about him in connection with his application for the position of Chairman in your new Department of Environmental Studies.

Other people will no doubt have written to you to emphasize Randy's qualifications as a scientist. His list of publications is impressive, and those writings of his that I have read convince me both of his capability as a serious researcher, and of his ability to communicate technical information to lay audiences.

I can best speak to Randy's qualities as a multi-disciplinarian and a teacher. I sat in on a series of seminars that Randy led while in Ashland, and was impressed. The seminar members covered disciplines ranging from the computer sciences to anthropology, with biology as the presiding interest. Randy was able to draw out of his colleagues and students - for it was a seminar attended both by professors and undergraduate students - an exciting variety of perspectives and ideas, and yet coordinated them artfully into a single, cohesive, on-going exploration. It was the sort of seminar one longs for, and too seldom finds. Randy is a fine and enthusiastic teacher.

In my personal communications with him, I have found Randy to be a man of wide interests. In the time I have known him, he has opened my eyes to a number of new areas. Our conversations have ranged from the behaviors of whales, via the philosophy of Ortega, to the nature and practice of shamanism; from animal play behavior to the anthropology of the !Kung bushmen; from paleolithic art to the art of story telling; and from the poetry of Ted Hughes to the uses and abuses of computers. He has taught anthropology, psychology, wildlife biology, and a number of

related areas, and welds a humanistic whole out of them.

His insights are usually penetrating, and achieve an excellent balance between scientific caution, intuition, and sheer common sense.

I have also had the opportunity to observe, both as the Literary Editor of Carnivore, and as a friend, the attitude that Randy brings to minute details. He is a man who has published, largely on his own time and at his own expense, a scientific journal praised for its scholarship and breadth. He can coordinate, administer, delegate, and inspire. His graphic work while President of the Orca Society included the design of some exceptional four-color brochures.

As you can tell, I like Randy very much. He has been an excellent friend, both to his colleagues and to his students. I have had the privilege of being both.

Sincerely,

Charles Cameron

Charles Cameron

Contact: hipbone@earthlink.net