

To Whom It May Concern,

I have had the privilege of being in three of Dr. Bridges classes over the course of both my undergraduate and graduate journeys and I must say, “journey” is the best way to describe my evolution.

As a non-traditional undergraduate student, the program developed and proliferated over the years by Dr. Bridges afforded me the opportunity to become an educator, something I did not believe to be a possibility. I was a married mother of three daughters who could not commit to a bricks-and-mortar type of education. The DLiTE program allowed me to take my full course load in an online format but even more importantly, it allowed me what many in my position had been lacking in the past; opportunity.

Now that I’ve touched upon the nuts-and-bolts of what Dr. Bridges has brought to a whole community, perhaps generation, of non-traditional students like myself, let me speak about the integrity she brings to the classroom. One of the many benefits of taking college courses as an adult is the element of experience. As a 30-something entering college, I brought with me experiences an 18 year old could not, experiences which aided in my decision making processes and personal reactions to the material presented. This experience, while beneficial, also has a dark side which can hinder growth as both a student and as a human being. Set in my ways, Dr. Bridges and I had a few conversations about the intensity in which I defended my many assertions and ideals. These conversations were eye-opening for me and I found that once I dropped my “curtain of experience” protest, my mind opened up to the fact that these long-held assertions were archaic and quite closed-minded. I was often forced to create something “new” in a situation where I was convinced nothing new existed! After all, everything that we need has already been invented, right? Just a second while I ask Siri...

The biggest impact Dr. Bridges has had on my life occurred just a few weeks ago when I gathered the courage to scrap an entire semester’s worth of work on my capstone project and change my direction completely. My new idea is big, and scary, and more often than not I believe the enormity of it to be too prodigious to complete. But then I remember the words of wisdom given to me by Dr. Bridges, words which hold true in every aspect of human existence, words I leave you with today; “now that you are not limiting yourself to what you already know-there is NO limit.”

Sincerely,

Stephanie Jo Mohs