



BRYN MAWR COLLEGE
BRYN MAWR, PENNSYLVANIA 19010

DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY
(215) 645-5064

April 16, 1982

Professor Carol Nicholson
Department of Philosophy
Rider College
P.O. Box 6400
Lawrenceville, N.J. 08648

Dear Professor Nicholson:

I understand that Gary Calore is being considered for a teaching position this summer in Rider College. In this connection I am pleased to send the present letter of recommendation.

Gary Calore was my student for three years in the Graduate School of Bryn Mawr College. He was also my assistant for two years in my introductory course "History of Western Thought." He has been attending a private seminar I have been conducting after my retirement May 1981. I am still a member of his PhD Committee, and I am closely following the progress of his doctoral dissertation.

I have nothing but praise for Gary Calore's teaching abilities, thoroughly tested in the classes which he took up from the above mentioned course. Students were extremely pleased by his presentations of the material and by his answers to questions. Gary Calore read and graded, and made extensive comments, on all the papers produced by students during two years, with such thoroughness, as well as good and fair sense, that I do not recall having changed a iota or, for that matter, a grade.

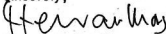
As to Gary Calore's philosophical abilities, there is no doubt in my mind that he has a wide range of philosophical interests (ontology, epistemology, philosophy of history, history of philosophy) and orientations (he is equally at ease with, say, analytic philosophy and phenomenology, or hermeneutics). It should be pointed out that this variety of interests does not produce, as sometime is the case with less endowed students, a bland or eclectic philosophical outlook. Quite the contrary: it contributes to enhance Calore's philosophical work by avoiding the pitfalls of mere quibbling or narrow-mindedness.

Gary Calore strikes me as one of the few students who can see the strong, or the weak, points of an idea or of an argument regardless of the language in which it is couched. Thus, he strikes a happy, and most fruitful, balance between analytic acumen and synthetic power.

Calore's wide range of philosophical interests, and solid scholarship, are at the service of a remarkably original mind. He is never content with "received traditions": he works through them in order to find satisfactory solutions to the most entangled questions. The work that Gary Calore has already done in the field of his dissertation gives ground to believe that when completed it will be a very fine piece of work. The topic itself is most promising, for not only is concerned with the problem of time, but also with a great and too neglected American philosopher, who urgently needs to be put in proper perspective. I am sure that Gary Calore will fulfill this need, and thus contribute both to the clarification of a most baffling problem and to a reappraisal of contemporary American thought.

In view of my remarks above, it goes without saying that I recommend Gary Calore unreservedly.

Sincerely,



Jose Ferrater Mora

Emeritus Professor of Philosophy

To Whom it May Concern,

It is with great pleasure and enthusiasm that I recommend Dr. Gary S. Calore as a scholar and teacher.

Gary Calore has revealed admirable promise as a young philosopher in the Classic American tradition, to whose naturalist and pragmatist orientations he has made a unique and innovative contribution. In addition, Calore has a wide range of philosophical interests both with respect to fields of research (ontology, epistemology, philosophy of history, p, history of philosophy) and other orientations (he is equally at ease with say, analytic philosophy and phenomenology, or hermeneutics). It should be pointed out that this variety of interests does not produce, as is the case sometimes with less mature scholars, a bland or eclectic philosophical outlook. Quite the contrary: it contributes to enhance Calore's philosophical work by avoiding the pitfalls of mere quibbling or narrowmindedness. Gary Calore strikes me as one of the few young scholars who can see the strong, or as the case may be, weak points of an argument regardless of the language in which it is couched. Thus, he strikes a happy, and most fruitful, balance between analytic acumen and synthetic power.

Calore's wide range of philosophical interests, and solid scholarship are at the service of a remarkably original mind. He is never content with "received traditions": he works through them in order to find satisfactory solutions to the most entangled questions.

No where is this more evident than in his doctoral dissertation, "Temporality and Radical Naturalism," a work which I had the pleasure to read as a member of his doctoral committee. Ambitious in scope and superbly executed, Calore's thesis represents a rare effort of constructive philosophy; in this case the construction of a theory of time based upon the concepts and categories of Justus Buchler's metaphysics. His treatment of this most baffling problem within Buchler's so-called "ordinal" perspective has imparted both clarity to the concept and extended the scope of a vital and important philosophical program.

I have nothing but praise for Gary Calore's teaching abilities, thoroughly tested in the classes which he took up as my assistant for two years for the course "History of Western Thought." Students were extremely pleased by his presentations of the material and by his answers to questions. He read and graded, and made extensive comments, on all the papers produced by students during two years, with such thoroughness, as well as good and fair sense, that I do not recall having changed an iota or, for that matter, a grade.

In view of my remarks above, it goes without saying that I recommend Gary Calore without reservation as a valuable asset to any university or college.

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Reference enclosed

Signature of Reference Writer

J. Ferrater Mora

Title

Professor Emerita of Philosophy

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