

Dear Search Committee Chair,

It is about time you considered my application for the tenure-track position in your position here recently advertised by your department in a journal I can't remember. Examination of your ad and current faculty, suggests that you desperately need someone in your department who does important research, in a competent fashion. I have by far the most research and educational background that your department is likely to attract. I am somewhat of an isolationist but could probably cope as a member of your department if you promised that some of the faculty will not talk to me (see enclosed list).

In addition to research compatibility, your advertisement caught my eye for its emphasis on "excellence in teaching." I had to laugh at this, but I do admire your aspirations. My philosophy for effective teaching is simple - don't teach stupid people. However, I am prepared to make an exception if you are willing to pay me appropriately.

Please find enclosed my CV, statements of research and teaching restrictions, and a selection of my recent publications (please return the reprints when you are done with them). Please also be advised that I have requested letters of recommendation from Dr. letter1, Dr. letter2 and my mother (who will attest that I am the smartest person she knows).

Thank you for your time, My name here

*This letter was written by my friend Mike Kinnison when we were both applying for jobs. Mike is happy to authorize its use as a template for job applications provided you don't mention his name.*