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October 4, 2024

Kenneth Elgersma, Chair  
UNI Faculty Senate

Dear Professor Elgersma,

It is my honor and privilege to write in support of Dr. Randy Grabowski's Emeritus request.

Dr. Grabowski holds a BM in Music Education from Indiana University, an MM in Trumpet Performance from the University of Nevada-Reno, and a DM in Trumpet Performance from Indiana University Jacobs School of Music.

Dr. Grabowski has been a valued faculty member of the UNI School of Music since 1986. His exemplary work as a master teacher of trumpet is evident in the very long list of his students who have earned accolades, awards, and established fine professional careers themselves as teachers and performers. This brief excerpt from a recent student assessment is a fine example of his positive impact on students: "Dr. Grabowski, thank you for making my lesson time one of the things I look forward to most in my week. You are dedicated to us becoming better musicians but mostly to us achieving a better character within ourselves, and that means more than any amount of trumpet playing could. You are amazing!" I am certain you will understand when I tell you that the announcement of Dr. Grabowski's pending retirement sent a shockwave through the entire trumpet studio.

In addition to teaching applied trumpet, Dr. Grabowski has been an active performer, giving two solo faculty recitals each semester, serving as principal trumpet with the wcf-symphony, and frequently appearing as collaborator, principal, or lead trumpet in multiple other chamber and large ensemble contexts. His service portfolio includes representation on a number of School of Music standing committees, professional service on wcf-symphony committees (including Board of Directors, Players Committee, Programming Committee), hosting trumpet workshops and masterclasses, and his tireless work in recruiting and providing sample lessons and communication with prospective students.

As a teacher, performer, and colleague, Dr. Grabowski will be difficult to replace; he is truly one of a kind, and I am proud to have worked with him and to be able to call him a friend. I heartily endorse his request for Emeritus status, and wish him well on the next phase of his journey.

Sincerely,



Melinda Boyd, Ph.D.  
Director and Professor of Music History