

October 29, 2024

I am writing this letter in support of Professor Kirk Manfredi's request for Emeritus status. Dr. Manfredi has been at UNI for 34 years. He is a highly valued member of our department who has contributed in many ways to the success of our students and to his colleagues. Dr. Manfredi is "the man" when it comes to training students in organic chemistry lab techniques. His section fills first and over the years colleagues have followed his lead with great success.

Dr. Manfredi also has taken the lead for many years in maintaining many of the complex instruments used for analyzing molecules. This is a non-trivial effort, requiring a high level of skill and knowledge about these various instruments and their software. Kirk has developed excellent relationships with instrument company representatives who support him in diagnosing, troubleshooting, and repairing the instruments—saving the department and the university thousands of dollars.

In addition to maintaining these instruments, Kirk has led a number of successful grants to obtain new or improved instrumentation. He has been successful in both Carver Foundation grants and National Science Foundation grants for equipment. A result of his efforts is that the Chemistry & Biochemistry department at UNI is one of the best equipped departments—if not the best—among comprehensive universities. And, it is the undergraduates who benefit the most with hands-on training using state-of-the-art equipment. Even our sister R1 institutions rarely, if ever, allow undergraduate students to use these sorts of scientific instruments. Kirk's efforts to obtain and maintain front line instrumentation has directly led to the success of many of our students when they go on to graduate programs or jobs in industry. Employers seek out our students because of their comfort and expertise with instrumentation.

Finally, Kirk Manfredi has also maintained an active research agenda throughout his 34 years. He and his student have given numerous presentations at professional meetings. In particular, he has been active in the American Society of Pharmacognosy.

I enthusiastically support Dr. Kirk Manfredi's request for Emeritus Status.

Sincerely,



William S. Harwood
Professor and Head