

Nov. 6, 2018

Dear Senate Chair Petersen

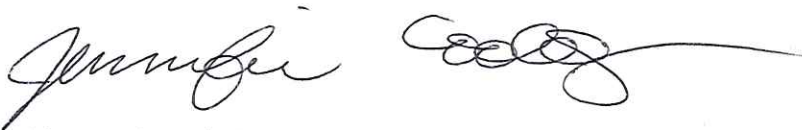
I am writing to document the longstanding and meritorious contributions of Dr. Kenneth Baughman, who now seeks Emeritus Status.

Dr. Baughman served in his role as a faculty member, advisor and Associate Head of the Department of Languages and Literatures for 46 years. During his tenure in our department, it is safe to say that he positively impacted thousands of lives at UNI. His efforts to support students were tireless, not only in his role as advisor to English, English Teaching, TESOL, TESOL Teaching majors and numerous minors, but also as a dedicated teacher and scholar who devoted countless hours to the discussion of literary texts as students worked through passages and papers, often in one-on-one meetings. This level of dedication was unfailing as he worked through student requests, documentation to prepare for student teaching, course scheduling and curriculum, to name just a few of the areas to which he contributed.

Dr. Baughman also initiated (and chaperoned) an annual trip to the American Players Theatre in Spring Green, Wisconsin to allow students of English (and theatre) to view professional Shakespeare productions in a remarkable outdoor venue. As a Shakespeare scholar himself, he was an avid theater-goer who appreciated the richness of seeing works performed as an integral part of their value and enjoyment. It was not by accident that Dr. Baughman selected American Players Theatre, nestled in the forest in a driftless area near the Wisconsin River, not far from Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesin. I believe that these choices reveal a deliberate and intentional choice that allowed Dr. Baughman to weave together the most meaningful elements of his life. He strived to provide students a means to explore their interactions with literary texts and/in the natural world. This duality reveals Dr. Baughman's own profound connections to nature and to its role in human growth and learning, and to the power of literary texts to do the same.

Needless to say, I highly recommend bestowing the honor of Emeritus Status on Dr. Kenneth Baughman, and I appreciate his commitment to our students, our department, the university, and the greater community. We continue to reap the benefits of his contributions, and I wish him continued success.

Sincerely,



Jennifer Cooley, Ph.D.
Professor of Spanish and Head
Department of Languages and Literatures.