

Dr. James Mattingly
Chair, Faculty Senate
University of Northern Iowa
Cedar Falls, Iowa 50614

September 31, 2019

Dear Dr. Mattingly:

I am writing this letter to support awarding emeritus status to Professor Charlotte C. Wells, Associate Professor of History. As a faculty member at UNI for 26 years, Professor Wells has made many contributions to the Department of History and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. During her tenure, Professor Wells has been an active teacher in the Liberal Arts Core, where she has offered classes in Humanities I, II, and III. She has additionally created upper-division history classes on early modern Europe. She has also designed and taught a course in World Civilizations and a Junior-Senior seminar on “Witches and the Witch Craze in Early Modern Europe and America.” Among the most popular teachers in her department, Professor Wells has consistently received 90% positive student evaluations. UNI’s student chapter of Phi Alpha Theta gave her an award for outstanding teaching in 2014.

Professor Wells has an extensive record of accomplishments in teaching, scholarship, and service. She has written many peer-reviewed articles on early modern French culture and history and numerous book reviews. Her scholarship is widely used in North America and Europe. The famed Bibliotheque Nationale de France owns two copies of her book *Law and Citizenship in Early Modern France*. In recent years, Professor Wells has been active in moving the scholarship of French culture and history into the digital world. She played a major role in developing the international scholarly digital association H-France, which currently has over 6,000 members. She currently serves as Associate Editor of the H-France journal *Film and Fiction for Scholars of France*. Professor Wells is currently under consideration for the position of H-France Editor-In-Chief.

In addition to her accomplishments in teaching and scholarship, Professor Wells has maintained an active service profile at UNI and throughout the Cedar Valley. She has served on many university and department committees. Since 2012, she has been the chair of the History Department Scholarship Committee. As part of her duties, she prepares an exhaustive review of each applicant, ranks them, and determines their financial need. Because of the great effort Professor Wells has put into this task, the department has been able to stretch its limited scholarship budget.

Professor Wells believes UNI faculty should give back to the community. She is a member of the Canterbury Forum Coordinating Committee, which is a community forum that presents academic lectures by speakers from a variety of cultural backgrounds on diverse topics relevant to the Cedar Valley. She also delivers numerous presentations to a wide variety of community groups in Cedar Falls and Waterloo. She has also led several student trips to Rome through St. Stephen the Witness Catholic Student Center at UNI. This semester, Professor Wells is teaching a Lifelong University course titled "Notre Dame: Past, Present, and Future."

Professor Wells will remain in Cedar Falls after her retirement where she plans to continue her scholarly activities and stay active in the community. Based on her immense record of accomplishments at UNI, I enthusiastically support Prof Charlotte C. Welles to receive emeritus status.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kenneth Atkinson".

Kenneth Atkinson, Ph.D.
Professor of History
Department of History