September 2022

To: University Faculty Senate
RE: Emeritus Status – Dr. Lyn Countryman

Dr. Lyn Countryman came to the university as a temporary instructor teaching science in the Department of Teaching at Malcolm Price Lab School in 1990. In 1991 she was hired on a tenure-track line. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Iowa in Science Education in 1992 and received tenure in 1995. In 1997 she achieved Associate Professor rank and was promoted to full professor in 2008. She has been a valued member of the Department of Teaching at Malcolm Price Lab School, where she served as a science educator, Middle School Coordinator, and Interim Director. She began serving the Department Head of the Department of Teaching in the fall of 2020 and will serve in this position until her retirement.

She has been an integral part of the Science Education Faculty being the major advisor to twenty-one master’s students mentoring them through thesis and non-thesis papers. She has also been a committee member on 23 other master’s final papers. Since 2008, Dr. Countryman has taught a core course in the Science Education Graduate Program.

She has been recognized by a variety of honors and awards. To name a few: Class of 1948 Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching (2019); the Ross A Nielsen Professional Service Award (1999); the College of Education Service Award (2016); Presidential Award for Excellence in Math and Science Teaching (1999); National Board Certification (1994 & 2004); Fellow of the Iowa Academy of Science (1999); Outstanding Middle Level Educator – R. Paul Brimm Award from the Iowa Association of Middle Level Educators (1996).

Throughout her career she has served on numerous national, state and university committees and following are but a few. She served on the Teacher Advisory Council, a standing committee on the National Academies. She worked for the National Board of Professional Teaching Standards on assessment. She served as the President of the Iowa Academy of Science (IAS), the President of the Iowa Science Teacher’s Section of the IAS. For the university Dr. Countryman has served on Student Fee Committee, the Teacher Education Secondary Senate, the Foundations of Excellence Steering Committee (first HLC), Learning Management Review Committee, and as the Vice President, President, and Chief Negotiator for the United Faculty.

Considering her contributions to the profession, the community and university spanning her 33 years at UNI. She more than fulfills the expectations for emeritus status!