



September 13, 2015

Dr. Steve O’Kane, Jr.  
Chair, Faculty Senate

Dr. O’Kane:

Dr. Rebecca Edmiaston has applied for emeritus status. She began her work at UNI in 1994 and retired fully in 2015. During this time, she contributed to the department, college and university in a variety of ways.

Dr. Edmiaston first came to campus as a Research Fellow in the Regents’ Center for Early Developmental Education. She worked with the late Dr. Rheta DeVries in carrying out research on constructivist education among young children.

When Dr. Edmiaston transferred into the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, she worked across divisions, namely Literacy Education and Early Childhood Education, as well as across departmental lines because of her background in Special Education. In this role, she provided a strong model of collaboration and inclusion, which role she took readily into her undergraduate and graduate classes. One of her scholarly publications continues to be a component of the early childhood curriculum course today because of its approach to bringing a developmentally appropriate philosophy into working with children with special needs.

Later Dr. Edmiaston was named Graduate Coordinator for the department. In this role, she engaged in developing a unified master’s program for the 7 divisions in the department. This provided support for coordinators in the divisions as well as for graduate students in the master’s and doctoral programs.

I highly recommend Dr. Edmiaston for emeritus status. And I thank her for her work and contributions to strengthening the undergraduate and graduate programs at UNI.

Respectfully,

Jill M. Uhlenberg, PhD  
Head, Curriculum & Instruction  
Associate Professor, Early Childhood Education