

July 1, 2019

Jim Mattingly, Ph.D.  
Chair, University Senate  
University of Northern Iowa

Dear Dr. Mattingly,

This letter is in support of Dr. William Downs' appointment as emeritus faculty. Dr. Downs joined the Department of Social Work at UNI in 1992. Since that time, he has made substantial contributions to the department, UNI, and the community. A prolific grant-writer, Dr. Downs has had approximately 50 funded grants since coming to UNI. What makes his work stand apart from others is his devotion to community agencies, especially those that serve minority and disenfranchised populations. He received substantial funding from the Office on Violence Against Women to develop the Integrative Services Project (ISP - [www.ispia.org](http://www.ispia.org)), which is a partnership between UNI and the Iowa Coalition Against Domestic Violence (ICADV) to develop and enhance collaboration between victim services and substance abuse treatment programs across Iowa. Since 2001, ISP has worked with approximately 20 different victim service and 20 different substance abuse treatment programs that cover 81 of Iowa's 99 counties, developing new services that enhance both safety and sobriety for women. For his work with ISP, Dr. Downs received the 2008 Time to Lead award from ICADV and the 2014 Award for Excellence from the Iowa Behavioral Health Association.

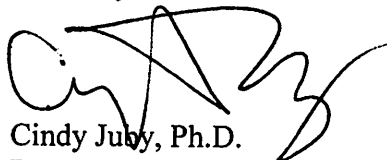
Dr. Downs received multiple grants to support the development of Social Action, Inc., a community and social action agency that works with at-risk youth in east Waterloo. Most recently, he submitted a foundation grant with Social Action, Inc. for youth to create a community garden, develop a yard care business, and go on supervised camping trips to learn camping and outdoor skills to serve as alternatives to the street.

Dr. Downs has also received funding to help establish Amani Community Services, the only culturally specific victim service agency for African Americans in Iowa. Along with Amani, he is currently working on a federal grant to help fund sexual assault services in east Waterloo.

His grant-writing contributions to develop and support area agencies led to Dr. Downs receiving the Social Action, Inc. Community Service Award (2010) and the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences Veridian Credit Union Community Engagement Award (2010). Other awards Dr. Downs has received for his scholarship include the University of Northern Iowa James F. Lubker Faculty Research Award (2010) and the Iowa Board of Regents Award for Faculty Excellence (2011).

I believe the Emeritus title would be appropriate for Dr. Downs given his time and contributions to UNI and the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cindy Juby', with a large, stylized flourish extending to the right.

Cindy Juby, Ph.D.  
Department Head, Social Work