

November 18, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I am very pleased to support **Professor Joanne Abel Goldman**'s application for Emeritus status. Professor Goldman joined the faculty of the Department of History in August 1990 as an instructor in United States history. In 1992 she was selected as a probationary member of the faculty following the department's search for a historian to offer courses in Public and U.S. History. She was a fortuitous choice to fill the position since in her almost thirty years at UNI she has ably served the department, the university and the Cedar Valley community as a teacher, scholar, and public historian.

During her tenure at UNI, Professor Goldman played an integral role in the delivery of the Department of History's undergraduate and graduate curriculum. In the Liberal Arts Core, she taught the Capstone course Technology, Environment, and Society and offered more sections of American Civilization, now History of the United States, than any other member of the current faculty. On several occasions, she provided the latter course to students in the UNI Honors Program. She also taught the introductory course U.S. History to 1877, required of all History and Social Science Teaching majors. Her regular 4000/5000-level offerings included Applying History: The Public Alternative, now Introduction to Public History (a course which she initially developed as a requirement for all Public History students); History of Technology in America; U.S. History: The Young Republic, 1785-1850; From Jefferson to Jackson; and The City in United States History. For many years, she was the sole provider of the 6000-level course Historical Methods, required of all graduate students and designed to provide them with the skills required to successfully negotiate our graduate program and to point them in the direction of their thesis or research paper focus. Meanwhile, Dr. Goldman developed and for seventeen years coordinated the Public History tracks in the department's undergraduate and graduate majors and was responsible for the placement and general supervision of all departmental interns and co-op students. Her work has laid the foundation for future departmental expansion within a growing subfield in the discipline of History. She also contributed to the departmental graduate program as a director or member of thesis committees within and beyond the field of Public History. Professor Goldman has been a dedicated teacher who has taken her instructional responsibilities seriously and who has been committed to developing effective and challenging courses for her students. Over the years, as Head of the department, I had numerous conversations with her about students who were having various kinds of problems and about whom she was clearly concerned and for whom she went the extra mile in hopes of facilitating their success.

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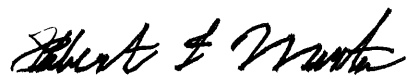
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Dr. Goldman's scholarship has focused on urban, technological, and policy history. Her 1997 book *New York City's Sewers: Developing Mechanisms of Urban Management* is well-known and respected in the field of urban environmental history. Over the years, her interests have shifted more toward national science policy. Her articles in the last ten to fifteen years have generally focused on scientific research in higher education, emphasizing work done and programs developed at Iowa State University. Scholars who examined her work for the department four years ago were universally enthusiastic about its thoughtful and pioneering quality. One of them observed, "She advances a common theme of using history to help understand the policy implications of work done in the realms of science and technology." As she completes her career at UNI, Professor Goldman is continuing her research into her most recent interest, rare earth and government policy.

While it has been her service as coordinator of Public History for which she is best known across the university and throughout the Cedar Valley, Dr. Goldman has contributed to the work of the department as a member of the Policies and Planning, Graduate Studies, Curriculum, and Promotion and Tenure Evaluation Committees and as chair of the Search Committee for a Colonial/Revolutionary era historian. Her university service has included membership on the committees for UNI Museum Collection Assessment, American Democracy Project, UNI North Central Association Steering, and Leadership Studies. She also served as a Freshman Class Advisor to Provost Scholars and was a member of the Presidential Scholars Advisory Board. Her professional service beyond the UNI community has included her membership on the Iowa Civil War Sesquicentennial Committee; Board of Directors, Ames Historical Society; and the Iowa Museums Association; and her work as a consultant for the Rath Administration Preservation Group.

Dr. Joanne Abel Goldman is to be commended for her commitment to our students, her significant scholarly contributions in the history of technology, science, and policy, her invaluable work to establish and sustain the Public History tracks in the department's undergraduate and graduate curricula, as well as for her other departmental, university, and professional contributions. Dr. Goldman will be retiring from UNI at the end of June 2020 and will be greatly missed by students, colleagues, and friends across campus. She has admirably served the University of Northern Iowa for the last thirty years, and I trust that you will honor her request for Emeritus status. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,



Robert F. Martin
Professor, Department of History