

March 23, 2022

Dear Members of the Faculty Senate:

I am writing in support of Dr. Flavia Vernescu's application for emeritus status following her retirement at the end of this semester. Dr. Vernescu has taught at UNI since 1991, and during that time she has made many contributions to the French program, first in the Department of Modern Languages and, more recently, in the Department of Languages & Literatures.

During her career at UNI, Dr. Vernescu has offered over 25 classes as part of the French program, creating several new courses, including Studies in French Business and Culture, Studies in Advanced Culture, and Adaptation to the Screen of French Literary Works. For many years, she directed the on-campus Summer Institute for Teachers of French as well as serving as a UNI representative and director for the Regents' Program in Lyon, France. In recent years, she also began offering elementary courses in Italian. All this is more notable because Dr. Vernescu is a native speaker of Romanian with a capacity for learning new languages of which I am very envious.

As a scholar, Dr. Vernescu is the author of the monograph, *Clivage et intégration du moi chez Julien Green*, a psychoanalytic study of the French-language author Julien Green. Her critical work also has appeared in a number of journals including *Alphabetum*, *Revue Francophone de Louisiane*, and *Dalhousie French Studies*. I was able to work with her as a translator when she provided a French translation for the English language text of *The Late Night Book*, a children's book app for the iPad that appeared in a multilingual second edition.

Dr. Vernescu has taken on a range of service activities throughout her career, bringing her language skills to bear to help with musical performances or as part of community outreach efforts. She has also been a regular member of departmental committees.

Finally, as a department head, I have appreciated Dr. Vernescu's insights and her concerns for student well being. Her presence in the department will be missed, and I wish her an enjoyable retirement. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Dr. Jim O'Loughlin
Department Head and Professor