

13 September 2021

Dear Colleagues:

I am writing in support of Laura Terlip's appointment as Professor Emeritus at UNI. Laura has been an outstanding teacher, researcher, and community member for 30 years, and it is my privilege to write on her behalf.

Laura is an award-winning teacher who has taught more than 30 different courses in her time at UNI. She has taught extensively in the LAC, Communication Studies major, and Communication and Media graduate program. Her dedication to teaching extends beyond the traditional classroom, which has benefitted students, faculty, and communities outside of the university. Laura has organized and supervised over 20 consulting projects with undergraduate students. She has done consulting and led a variety of workshops for faculty at UNI on topics including SOA, experiential learning, and diversity. And she has done an incredible amount of consulting/training across the state for organizations ranging from accountants to interior designers to journalists.

Laura has been a consistently productive researcher with over 20 published pieces and 60 academic presentations. One of the most striking parts of Laura's CV is the diversity of topics she has written and presented on. Much of her scholarship focuses on organizational communication, the subfield in which she has taught and written throughout her career. However, she has also researched a wide-array of topics including communication ethics, media coverage of various public controversies, pedagogy, and other cultural phenomena that have drawn her interest. Beyond making Laura a legitimately interesting person to have a conversation with, the breadth of her interests has allowed her to effectively communicate and collaborate with colleagues across the many subfields in the Department of Communication and Media.

Laura's record of service is truly expansive. It is difficult to even attempt to summarize in a paragraph. She has done extensive service at the departmental, college, university, and disciplinary levels, as well as in the community. She served in high-profile service roles such as Vice-Chair of Faculty Senate and on search committees for the UNI President and CHFA Dean. But where Laura's record of service really stands apart is in her less-visible service work: In areas such as SOA, curriculum, scheduling, and many others, she has consistently been willing to engage in the low-profile, often time-consuming but frequently thankless work that is necessary to make a department and university function. Our department and university are better because of her tireless service to them.

Laura was the Associate Department Head when I began my tenure as Department Head. Her mentoring in those first months has helped me in countless ways. At our first meeting, I remember asking her what an Associate Head does. She replied, "whatever the department

needs." I think that answer captures her approach to her students, colleagues, and the university quite well. As you can see, Laura is certainly deserving of an appointment as Professor Emeritus.

Sincerely,

Ryan McGeough

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