

March 29, 2024

Dear Faculty Senate:

I am writing to express my support for Diane Vallentine's application for emeritus status. Diane has been an instructor in the School of Music at the University of Northern Iowa (UNI) since 1992. In 2004, she began teaching online courses at UNI for the Office of Online and Distance Education. I have had the opportunity to work with Diane as a result of her online teaching, and I can say without hesitation that she is an outstanding educator.

Diane has diligently served the university for 32 years. Her dedication to her students is evident in all aspects of her teaching, and her passion for music is contagious. In addition to her teaching, Diane served as the faculty advisor for Sigma Alpha Iota, a women's professional music fraternity for 28 years.

Her commitment to excellence is evidenced by her continual participation in professional development workshops, training, and professional affiliations. All of which helped to make her a highly effective instructor.

During her time at UNI, Diane has been a valued and important member of the faculty in the School of Music and for Online and Distance Education. I greatly appreciated Diane's unwavering commitment to teaching online and to serving distance education students. After her retirement, she will be missed by all who had the opportunity to work with her.

Diane has significantly impacted the education of her students, and I believe that her contributions should be recognized. I strongly endorse Diane's application for emeritus status and ask that you give it your full consideration.

Sincerely,

Karen Cunningham

Karen Cunningham, Associate Dean & Director
Online Education and Individual Studies