


DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

To: Laurie Ramirez
From: Michael Jacobson 
Subject: Annual Report 2012-2013
Date: July 26, 2013

Due to the fact that two scheduled annual review meetings with me were cancelled, I am providing you with my written assessment of your efforts during academic year 2012-2013. Without the standard face to face conference it is difficult to accurately report activity based solely on digital measures. Given the caveats, my review of your work indicates excellent progress in most areas of the traditional triad: teaching, research, and service. Your major areas of responsibility are to the middle grades program at both undergraduate and graduate level. Therein, you have consistently taught CI 3920, CI 4450, and CI 5750. Student evaluations indicate excellent performance in both the undergraduate and graduate courses assigned to you. Specifically, and by way of example, spring 2013 evaluations using the standard electronic survey instrument used in the RCOE, indicate that your course mean and instructor mean for CI 3920 were 4.39/4.22, for CI 4450: 4.75/5.0, and for CI 5750: 4.5/5.0. Your evaluations compare very well to the department mean of 4.26 and instructor mean of 4.4. Students find you accessible, responsive, flexible, caring, extremely knowledgeable, and able to make difficult concepts in middle level education understandable. In short, you provide a rich and rewarding learning experience for students at all levels. I would add that I have not found peer reviews for the academic year and, if this is indeed the case, I remind you that one peer review each semester is required for tenure track faculty. You perform your role as advisor to a large number of middle grades students in excellent fashion.

You scholarly activities include a co-authored paper included in the proceedings at the S-STEP Conference in England and a co-authored campus presentation about hybrid teaching with our colleagues in LTS. You have numerous manuscripts in review or in the preparation stage.

Service is evidenced at all levels of the university and to the profession. You serve as undergraduate middle grades coordinator, and as a member of the middle grades PAC. You are a member of the NCATE Standard 1 Committee, serve as faculty advisor for the Collegiate Middle Level Association that achieved national recognition, as a member of the Teaching Fellows Advisory Council, and as member of the RCOE Diversity Committee. You serve as faculty mentor for Appalachian Allies and as a member of the Multicultural Center Advisory Board. Very importantly, you served as a member of the RCOE Dean Search Committee. You serve as a conference paper reviewer for AMLE and the S-STEP Castle Conference, and as a journal reviewer.

The quality of your teaching and service activities during this academic year has been excellent. If my assessment of your scholarship is correct, you will need to do all you can to ensure that manuscripts under review or about ready for review, bear fruit in order to solidify your argument for promotion and tenure. I have enjoyed working with you as chair these past years; I feel privileged to have you as a colleague and friend.