

SECTION: 5
DATE: December 13, 2019

BOARD OF REGENTS
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

RECOMMENDATION
EMERITUS FACULTY STATUS

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the Board of Regents grant Emeritus Status to four (4) former faculty.

Linda Burilovich, Department of Accounting and Finance from 1991 to 2019 who retired after 28 years; Laura Davis, School of Social Work from 1994 to 2018 who retired after 24 years; Jamin Eisenbach, Department of Biology from 1988 to 2019 who retired after 31 years; and Sylvia Sims Gray, School of Social Work from 1988 to 2019 who retired after 31 years.

STAFF SUMMARY

The Collective Bargaining Agreement between Eastern Michigan University and the Eastern Michigan University Chapter of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) provides that a faculty member who has served the University for at least fifteen (15) years may be nominated for Emeritus Faculty Status upon retirement.

The nominations for these individuals have received the support of the Department Head or School Director, the Dean of the College, and the Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None.

ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION

The proposed Board action has been reviewed and is recommended for Board approval.



University Executive Officer
Rhonda Longworth, Ph.D.

11/20/19

Date

**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
EMERITUS FACULTY RECOMMENDATION
December 13, 2019**

Linda Burilovich

Professor, Department of Accounting and Finance
(28 years)

Doctorate	S.W. U.M.M. College
Masters	Eastern Michigan University
Baccalaureate	University of Michigan

Laura Davis

Professor, School of Social Work
(24 years)

Doctorate	Cornell University
Masters	Syracuse University
Baccalaureate	North Carolina Wesleyan College

Jamin Eisenbach

Professor, Department of Biology
(31 years)

Doctorate	University of California, Berkeley
Masters	University of California, Berkeley
Baccalaureate	Cornell University

Sylvia Sims Gray

Professor, School of Social Work
(31 years)

Doctorate	Wayne State University
Masters	Michigan State University
Baccalaureate	Tennessee State University



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Academic and Student Affairs

EMERITUS FACULTY STATUS RECOMMENDATION

The Department or School of The Accounting & Finance recommends the awarding of Emeritus Faculty Status for the following retiring/retired faculty member:

Name of Faculty Member: Linda Burilovich

Current Status/Rank at EMU: _____

Date of Hire at EMU: 1/1/1991 Retirement Date: 8/31/2019

Number of Years at EMU: _____ (Minimum of 15 years of service required)

Degree(s)/Institutions
 Doctoral: S.W. UMM College
 Masters: EMU
 Baccalaureate: University of Michigan

Please Attach a Brief Statement of Support to this 2 page application

Emeritus Faculty status is contingent upon the approval of the Board of Regents. Candidates, once approved, will be awarded Emeritus status after their official retirement date. This information will be kept on file in the Provost's Office.

[Redacted]		[Redacted]	
Recommended by (please print)	Date		
[Redacted]	10/7/19	[Redacted]	10/7/19
Department Head	10/7/19 Date	Dean	[Redacted] Date
[Redacted]	10/10/19 Date		11-22-19
Provost			Date Submitted to Board of Regents

Please continue to page 2 of this application.



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

September 4, 2019

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to highly recommend Dr. Linda Burilovich for the distinction of Emeritus Professor of Accounting at Eastern Michigan University. Dr. Burilovich has been an exceptional and influential faculty member in our college and department in numerous respects for over 30 years, with outstanding contributions related to teaching, research, and service.

Dr. Burilovich is an excellent teacher who expertly connects current events and the 'real world' to her course topics and discussions. On multiple occasions, I have had current or former students of mine speak very favorably about Dr. Burilovich's skills as a teacher and express their enjoyment of her classes. In an applied discipline area such as taxation, it is very important for students to be able to connect their textbook knowledge to the real world, and Dr. Burilovich effectively does that by regularly incorporating real-world examples in her classes.

Dr. Burilovich's commitment to her students and effective teaching ability is further evidenced by the numerous awards and recognitions that she has received during her academic career. She is a past recipient of the university's Distinguished Faculty Teaching Award II, the most prestigious award presented to EMU faculty. In addition, Dr. Burilovich received the Teaching Excellence Award for the College of Business (COB), the COB's Dean's Faculty Achievement Award, the Department of Accounting Faculty Achievement Award (thrice), and the Internal Revenue Service's Spirit of America Award, among others.

Dr. Burilovich's classroom teaching has also been enhanced and complemented by her work as a skilled researcher. She has conducted extensive practitioner-based research in renowned and prestigious journals such as *The CPA Journal*, *The Tax Advisor*, *National Public Accountant*, and the *Journal of Applied Business Research*. Such research endeavors not only display evidence of her maintaining currency in her areas of expertise, but provide useful reference material for accounting practitioners, and enhance her preparedness and presentation of tax-related topics to her students in the classroom.

Dr. Burilovich has also provided strong service in our department and college, serving on numerous committees during her career. She served as the Chair of the Accounting Personnel Committee for several years, and her expertise and experience in this very important service contribution has been invaluable to our department. She has also served to mentor other faculty on the committee related to how to effectively fulfill the committee's responsibilities.



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

Recommendation for Dr. Linda Burilovich - Page 2

Dr. Burilovich also served as the primary advisor for the Master of Science in Accounting program for several years, and she developed our department's Master of Science in Taxation program. This was a very instrumental service contribution to our department, providing our students with an excellent graduate program to help them fulfill their career ambitions, and one that is valued by local accounting firms.

Yet another example of a significant service contribution by Dr. Burilovich was her service as a coordinator and instructor for the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program for students in EMU's Beta Alpha Psi and Accounting Club student organizations. The benefits of this program are immeasurable, as low-income and elderly citizens are offered free tax preparation by our students, who at the same time obtain invaluable hands-on experience in completing individual income tax returns.

Most importantly, Dr. Burilovich has been a valued colleague in our department and college. From my very first semester at EMU in Winter, 2000, Dr. Burilovich has always been willing to provide insight and guidance to me whenever I sought it. Her sage advice and wisdom has been very valuable to my career, and it is reflective of her collegial, nurturing, and team-oriented nature.

The news of Dr. Burilovich's retirement is bittersweet. I am glad that she will be able to enjoy the freedom to pursue endeavors of interest during her retirement; however, she will be greatly missed as a colleague in our department and college. Therefore, I was very happy to learn of her desire to 'stay connected' to EMU as an Emeritus Professor. Dr. Linda Burilovich receives my highest recommendation for this honor without reservation, as she is very worthy of this distinction.

Sincerely,

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of Daniel R. Brickner.

Daniel R. Brickner, Ph.D., CPA
Professor of Accounting



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

September 19, 2019

Dear Emeritus Faculty Review Committee:

I write this letter in support of Dr. Linda Burilovich's application for Emeritus Faculty Status after recently retiring from Eastern Michigan University (EMU), College of Business.

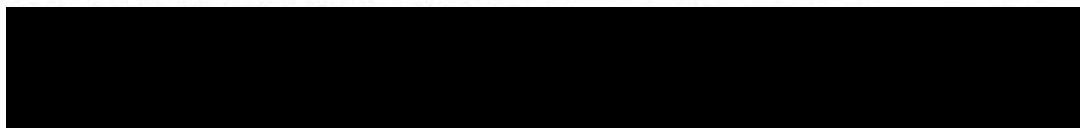
Dr. Burilovich was a faculty member of the Department of Accounting and Finance, College of Business, from 1991 through 2019 (28 years). She truly deserves this honor as she served the University with excellence in fulfilling her teaching, scholarship, and service responsibilities.

Dr. Burilovich taught primarily in the area of taxation and was fully committed to instructional excellence. She demonstrated outstanding teaching skills in the classroom, as evidenced by numerous teaching awards such as the 2014 EMU Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching. She was also EMU's nominee for the 2016 State of Michigan Distinguished Professor of the Year Award.

Dr. Burilovich's research was primarily related to taxation and retirement planning issues. Her retirement planning expertise was valued, as she was interviewed for articles for Fox Business and Yahoo News. Dr. Burilovich should be commended for her outstanding service during her time at EMU. In addition to serving on many committees, she helped coordinate the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program at EMU from 1991 to 2014, where EMU students provided free income tax preparation services to qualified individuals in the local community. She also was instrumental in developing and leading the Masters in Taxation Program from 2014 until her retirement in 2019. Eastern Michigan University's Masters of Science in Taxation program is ranked as the 18th best master's of taxation program in the United States, according to Grad School Hub.

In closing, I highly recommend Dr. Linda Burilovich for Emeritus Faculty Status at Eastern Michigan University. She is greatly deserving of this honor.

Sincerely,


William D. LaGore, PhD, CPA
Professor of Accounting
Eastern Michigan University



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Academic and Student Affairs

EMERITUS FACULTY STATUS RECOMMENDATION

The Department or School of Social Work recommends the awarding of Emeritus Faculty Status for the following retiring/retired faculty member:

Name of Faculty Member: Laura Davis, LMSW, PhD

Current Status/Rank at EMU: Professor

Date of Hire at EMU: September, 1994 Retirement Date: October, 2018

Number of Years at EMU: 25 (Minimum of 15 years of service required)

Degree(s)/Institutions Doctoral: PhD, Cornell University

Masters: MSW, Syracuse University

Baccalaureate BA, North Carolina Wesleyan College

Please Attach a Brief Statement of Support to this 2 page application

Emeritus Faculty status is contingent upon the approval of the Board of Regents. Candidates, once approved, will be awarded Emeritus status after their official retirement date. This information will be kept on file in the Provost's Office.

Deborah A Willis 10.11.2019
Recommended by (please print) Date

[Redacted] 10/14/19
Department Head Date

[Redacted] 10/16/19
Dean Date

[Redacted] _____
Provost Date

11-22-19
Date Submitted to Board of Regents

Please continue to page 2 of this application.

Letter in support of Laura F. Davis, MSW, PhD, application for Emeritus Status

Dr. Davis has been a member of the EMU faculty since 1994 when she joined the faculty from Michigan State University. Her appointment to the faculty came two years after the program was accredited by the Council on Social Work Education for the first time, and she was instrumental in supporting the steady growth and enhancement of the MSW program.

Over the twenty-five years she was a member of the faculty at EMU, Dr. Davis contributed to the School, College and wider University in multiple ways. Dr. Davis developed courses, mentored and supported students in both the BSW and MSW programs, supported faculty, and helped develop the Continuing Education program that supported the MSW licensure needs for social workers in Southeastern Michigan.

Dr. Davis developed courses in administration and supervision that form the basis for students interested in courses in this area. She mentored students interested in these areas and also taught the field courses in both the BSW and MSW program, committed to supporting students in the field in order to make sure they achieved the competencies required by CSWE.

Dr. Davis also served as a union steward, helping to rewrite the DED and DID, successfully advocating that the MSW program be seen as a year-round program. This recognition is a necessity for students to receive the level of financial aid needed for them to successfully enroll in courses year-round. She served as a guide for new faculty as they sought to understand the requirements of their job and move on to successfully apply for tenure and promotion.

Dr. Davis also helped to bring the Continuing Education program operating out of EMU and staffed by a mix of community social workers and EMU social work faculty. She helped establish EMU in the NASW cooperative, which allowed EMU courses to be listed across Michigan. She helped set up the year-old partnership with EMU that allows the School of Social Work to have more control over the kinds of courses that were offered as well as giving faculty more opportunity to be involved in developing and delivering CE courses.

I believe that Dr. Davis' commitment to the students and faculty within the School of Social Work and across the university, makes her appointment as Emeritus Faculty an obvious choice. Her twenty-five years of service to the School and the University, but most especially to the students, is the kind of service that supports Emeritus Status.



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Academic and Student Affairs

EMERITUS FACULTY STATUS RECOMMENDATION

The Department or School of Biology recommends the awarding of
Emeritus Faculty Status for the following retiring/retired faculty member:

Name of Faculty Member: Jamyn Eisenbach

Current Status/Rank at EMU: Professor

Date of Hire at EMU: 8.31.88 Retirement Date: 8.31.19

Number of Years at EMU: 32 (Minimum of 15 years of service required)

Degree(s)/Institutions Doctoral: University of California Berkeley 1986
Masters: University of California Berkeley 1979
Baccalaureate Cornell University 1974

Please Attach a Brief Statement of Support to this 2 page application

Emeritus Faculty status is contingent upon the approval of the Board of Regents. Candidates, once approved, will be awarded Emeritus status after their official retirement date. This information will be kept on file in the Provost's Office.

[Redacted] 9.24.19 [Redacted]
Recommended by (please print) Date
[Redacted] 9.24.19 [Redacted] 9/25/19
Department Head Date Dean Date
[Redacted] 11-22-19
Provost Date Date Submitted to Board of Regents

Please continue to page 2 of this application.

August, 2019

To: The EMU Board of Regents

Re: Dr. Jamin Eisenbach, Professor of Biology – Emeritus Status

On August 31, 2019, Dr. Jamin Eisenbach retired from EMU after 32 years of distinguished teaching, scholarship, and service to the university. Dr. Eisenbach had been hired to replace a legend – Dr. Bill Fennell – in teaching BIO 105, Biology for non-majors. He quickly made that course his own, and began establishing his own legend. A masterful lecturer, Dr. Eisenbach gave performances in every class that enthralled students and taught them to love biology. No matter the topic at hand, he always had a fascinating story drawn from his beloved world of insects that perfectly demonstrated the concept being discussed. Dr. Eisenbach was singlehandedly responsible for recruiting scores of students to become biology majors as a result of their experience in BIO 105.

When the Biology Department revised its curriculum in 2001, it was decided that we needed the best faculty to teach the introductory courses for majors, to capture the imagination of the students and make sure we gave them the best possible introduction to the world of biology. It was no surprise that Dr. Eisenbach was the first faculty member tapped for this opportunity. He spent the next 18 years inspiring and entertaining incoming biology majors, and it was no coincidence that the number of majors grew substantially during that period.

Dr. Eisenbach was a consummate educator who always bent over backwards for his students. His lectures were performance art. He spent hours on each class, carefully crafting and organizing the material to explain complex concepts carefully and build new concepts on top of existing ones. The presentation was where the performance came in. Dr. Eisenbach had a high-energy delivery that entertained students while they were educated, and some of his jokes were legendary. As times changed, Dr. Eisenbach worked new pedagogies into his classes, incorporating active learning exercises into his lectures to keep students engaged. He gave as much of himself outside of class as he did inside the classroom, spending immeasurable time helping students to not only master the course material but also to develop study habits that doubtless served them well in all of their classes. Dr. Eisenbach's teaching proficiency did not go unnoticed; he was a deserving recipient of the 2001 EMU Alumni Teaching Excellence Award and the 2002 Ron Collins Distinguished Faculty Award for Teaching II.

Dr. Eisenbach was a superb colleague as well. He was eager to share his knowledge of the profession and how the university worked, and as a result he became an unofficial mentor to nearly every new faculty member in the department. He had a knack for getting to the heart of any issue under discussion at faculty meetings, often pointing out a perspective that had not been considered by anyone else. He served the department with distinction on numerous department standing committees, as a member of the General Education Course Vetting Committee, and as a long-serving representative to the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Eisenbach was one of, if not the best, instructors in the history of the EMU Biology Department, and he gave of himself to students and faculty alike. In many ways, he was the face of the Biology Department for over three decades. Therefore, the Biology Department requests Emeritus Faculty status for Dr. Jamin Eisenbach, in recognition of his many contributions to EMU.



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Academic and Student Affairs

EMERITUS FACULTY STATUS RECOMMENDATION

The Department or School of School of Social Work recommends the awarding of Emeritus Faculty Status for the following retiring/retired faculty member:

Name of Faculty Member: Sylvia Sims Gray

Current Status/Rank at EMU: Professor

Date of Hire at EMU: August 1988 Retirement Date: August 2019

Number of Years at EMU: 31 (Minimum of 15 years of service required)

Degree(s)/Institutions Doctoral: Wayne State University
Masters: Michigan State University
Baccalaureate Tennessee State University

Please Attach a Brief Statement of Support to this 2 page application

Emeritus Faculty status is contingent upon the approval of the Board of Regents. Candidates, once approved, will be awarded Emeritus status after their official retirement date. This information will be kept on file in the Provost's Office.

[Redacted]
Recommended by (please print) _____ Date 10-18-19
Department Head _____ Date _____
Provost [Signature] _____ Date 10/25/19

[Redacted] _____ Date 10-22-19
Dean _____ Date _____
11-22-19
Date Submitted to Board of Regents

Please continue to page 2 of this application.



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

September 4, 2019

Proposal for the nomination of Dr. Sylvia Sims Gray for Emeritus Faculty

Dear Social Work Faculty,

I am writing this letter of recommendation for Dr. Sylvia Sims Gray, Professor in the College of Health and Human Services, School of Social work. Dr. Sims Gray has established a commitment to high quality teaching, collaborative learning and outstanding mentorship. She has been a source of support, guidance and inspiration to me and other members of the faculty in the School of Social Work during her years as a faculty member.

Dr. Sims Gray has been my mentor and friend the past 14 years that I have been teaching at EMU. She was instrumental in affecting change in our undergraduate curriculum and policies through her work on the BSW Committee where she assisted, not only myself, but all of the committee members in understanding past challenges in the program and our need to work collaboratively to establish goals for the program and an action plan to achieve them.

She has actively served on numerous committees throughout her tenure including Search and most recently she provided leadership and mentoring for all part time faculty. She met with part time faculty members and assisted with syllabus development and class room instruction. Her willingness to mentor faculty has been invaluable. Dr. Sims Gray has also been instrumental in supporting my efforts and the efforts of others to establish a research agenda. She is an expert in qualitative research methods and has made her research available to me as well as offering to mentor me in increasing my skills in qualitative research methods.

Dr. Sims Gray is the lead faculty for the department in multicultural and racial issues. She developed a course on cultural competence based on her experiences as a researcher and her years of community based research and program development in Southeast Michigan. I had the privilege of teaching this course for two semesters. Dr. Sims Gray took considerable personal time to mentor me on understanding not only the course design but the methodology underlying the course objectives and class activities. With her initial and continued help and support teaching this class was one of the most positive experiences I have had in teaching a new class.

Dr. Sims Gray is also the founder and past faculty advisor for the Student Association of Black Social Workers. Early in her career at EMU she recognized the need for African American students to have a way to interact with each other, support each other and confront issues affecting the Black community. Through her efforts, Social Work students in the NABSW completed numerous community service activities in the University and larger community while gaining valuable leadership and community organizational skills. When I became the faculty advisor for the NABSW Dr. Sims Gray provided

exceptional support and many hours of her personal time to ensure a smooth transition and provide continued advice and support.

She is a generous, thoughtful, and courageous individual who has a passion for social justice and fairness. She has high ethical standards for herself and for others and believes in solution focused efforts to address problems and issues, large and small. She has been an inspiration to me and others during my years at EMU and she is highly respected by faculty, staff and students. She is truly deserving of Emeritus Status.

Sincerely,



**Janet Okagbue-Reaves LMSW, PhD
BSW Program Director**