

BOARD OF REGENTS
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

SECTION: 5
DATE: December 10, 2020

RECOMMENDATION

EMERITUS FACULTY AND LECTURER STATUS

ACTION REQUESTED

It is recommended that the Board of Regents grant Emeritus Status to three (3) former faculty and one (1) former lecturer.

Faculty:

Paul Bruss, Department of English Language & Literature from 1969 to 2019 who retired after 50 years; Bernard A. Miller, Department of English Language & Literature from 1987 to 2020 who retired after 33 years; and Marilyn Wedenoja, School of Social Work from 1992 to 2020 who retired after 28 years

Lecturer:

Laura Martinez, School of Social Work from 2005 to 2020 who retired after 15 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) states 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.



November 17, 2020

University Executive Officer
Rhonda Longworth, Ph.D.

Date

**EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
EMERITUS FACULTY RECOMMENDATION
December 10, 2020**

FACULTY:

Paul Bruss

Professor, Department of English Language & Literature
(50 years)
Doctorate University of Rochester
Masters University of Rochester
Baccalaureate University of Wisconsin

Bernard A. Miller

Professor, Department of English Language & Literature
(33 years)
Doctorate Purdue University
Masters University of North Dakota
Masters North Dakota State University
Baccalaureate North Dakota State University

Marilyn Wedenoja

Professor, School of Social Work
(28 years)
Doctorate
Masters University of Michigan
Baccalaureate University of Michigan
University of Michigan

LECTURER:

Laura Martinez

Lecturer, School of Social Work
(15 years)
Masters Eastern Michigan University
Baccalaureate Eastern Michigan University



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Academic and Student Affairs

EMERITUS FACULTY STATUS RECOMMENDATION

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

Name of Faculty Member: Paul Brass

Current Status/Rank at EMU: Professor

Date of Hire at EMU: 9/1969 Retirement Date: 8/31/2019

Number of Years at EMU: 50 (Minimum of 15 years of service required)

Degree(s)/Institutions Doctoral: Univ. of Rochester 1970

Masters: Univ. of Rochester 1968

Baccalaureate Univ. of Wisconsin/Milwaukee 1965

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] 10/2/19
Recommended by (please print) / Date

[Redacted] 10.2.19
Department Head / Date

[Redacted] 10/27/2020
Dean / Date

[Redacted] 11/6/20
Provost / Date

Date Submitted to Board of Regents

Please continue to page 2 of this application.

October 15, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

I write in strong support of Professor Paul Bruss's application for Emeritus status. Professor Bruss is the son of a Lutheran minister and from Milwaukee. He took his PhD at Rochester University in 1970. He was initially hired to teach British Literature especially Joseph Conrad, the subject of Professor Bruss's Dissertation. Early in his EMU career, he spent a year at Brown University on fellowship and experienced a "conversion" to postmodernism (Like Saul on the road to Damascus) and came back pronouncing that from now on he would only teach contemporary literature. (Postmodernism according to St. Paul!) He also developed the Women in Literature (LITR 443) for the department. And, of course, there is his important service to JNT.

It is easy to forget how remarkably courageous Professor Bruss was when he took over the role as editor of *The Journal of Narrative Technique*. A colleague had edited the journal from its beginning, and his name was closely associated with the publication. He had given the journal its critical framework, and its scholarly reputation owed much to his guidance. When this faculty member threatened to remove the journal from EMU, a number of faculty stood up to him. But keeping the journal in the Department of English Language and Literature was the easy part. Reimagining the journal required something much more. Professor Bruss was, without a doubt, the only member of our department up to the task. He was committed to investigating new regimes of theory, and determined to seek out authors who would be invested in challenging the profession's intellectual orthodoxies. In so many ways, Professor Bruss not only saved the journal. He saved our literature program. He offered an opportunity for existing faculty to expand their horizons, and to rethink not only what sort of essays we should accept for publication but also what sort of young faculty we should hire, what we should begin to expect from our majors and minors. He reset the course for our faculty and for our programs.

For these and many more reasons, I recommend Professor Paul Bruss be granted Emeritus status. Please let me know if I might answer any additional questions.

Sincerely,



Dr. Joseph Csicsila
Head



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
Academic and Student Affairs

EMERITUS FACULTY STATUS RECOMMENDATION

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

Name of Faculty Member: Bernard A. Miller

Current Status/Rank at EMU: Professor





Date of Hire at EMU: September 1, 1987 Retirement Date: August 31, 2020

Number of Years at EMU: 33 (Minimum of 15 years of service required)

Degree(s)/Institutions Doctoral: Purdue University
 Two MAs: North Dakota State University
 Masters: and University of North Dakota
 Baccalaureate North Dakota 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.

		<u>10.15.20</u>	
Recommended by	(please print)	Date	
		<u>10.15.20</u>	<u>10/27/2020</u>
Department Head		Date	Date
		<u>11/16/20</u>	
Provost		Date	Date Submitted to Board of Regents

Please continue to page 2 of this application.

October 15, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

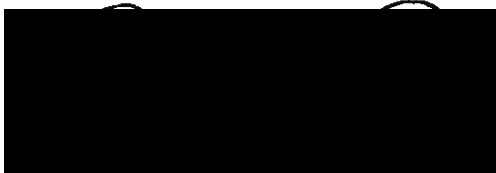
I write in strong support of Professor Bernie Miller's application for Emeritus status. He came to Eastern Michigan University with fifteen years of teaching experience (including graduate assistantships) at other universities. He was hired at EMU in September 1987. Upon his retirement in August 2020, he had taught at Eastern for 33 years. During that time he instructed and advised upwards of 2,500 Eastern students. Professor Miller's course schedules have included classes in literature and writing at both the graduate and undergraduate level.

Additionally, Professor Miller served on numerous search committees and most of the department's standing committees during his tenure, including twelve years on the department's Personnel Committee, with four years as chair of that committee. In terms of university-wide activities, he served his entire tenure (except for the phased retirement years) as the English Department's advisor for the University's Undergraduate Symposium and the Department advisor to the Honors College.

In terms of his scholarship during his time at Eastern, Professor Miller gave over 50 conference presentations, had a number of publications, and completed a book, *Rhetoric's Earthly Realm: Heidegger, Sophistry, and the Gorgian Kairos* (Parlor Press) that in 2013 received the Gary Olson *Journal of Advanced Composition* award for best book on Rhetorical Theory and Cultural Studies.

Professor Bernie Miller is richly deserving of Emeritus status and I recommend him without reservation. Please let me know if I might answer any questions.

Sincerely,



Dr. Joseph Csicsila
Head
Department of English



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: Marilyn Wedenoja

Current Status/Rank at EMU: Professor

Date of Hire at EMU: 08/1992 Retirement Date: 08/31/2020

Number of Years at EMU: 28 (Minimum of 15 years of service required)

Degree(s)/Institutions
Doctoral: Ph.D./University of Michigan
Masters: MSW/University of Michigan
Baccalaureate B.A./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.

Tana Bridge 10/02/2020

Recommended by (please print) _____ Date _____

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Signature]

Department Head _____ Date _____

Dean _____ Date _____

Provost _____ Date 11/16/20

_____ Date Submitted to Board of Regents

Please continue to page 2 of this application.

Dear School of Social Work Faculty,

Faculty Emeritus is a status given to a retired faculty member who has made a significant contribution to the university through a long and distinguished record of scholarship, teaching, and service. As we reflect on our current roles within the School of Social Work and that which makes this School of Social Work unique and progressive, you will see reflections of the commitment, perseverance, and dedication of Dr. Marilyn Wedenoja. Her impact is integrated in every aspect of this school and across the university. I ask that you accept this letter as a formal request for Emeritus faculty status for Dr. Wedenoja.

Dr. Wedenoja received her PhD from the University of Michigan in Social Work and Psychology and had a 28-year history of distinguished merit within the School of Social Work at Eastern Michigan University. She was instrumental in the initial development and accreditation of the Master's program and more specifically the Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Concentration. She served at every level of the university including all school committees, seven years as the MSW director, one year as the interim School Director, Faculty Council, College Advisory Boards, and university search committees, to name a few. Throughout her tenure, core themes are evident including collaboration, advancing the wellbeing for those with mental illness, international study, and research.

Dr. Wedenoja is recognized for her collegial leadership, generous spirit, and ability to stay grounded in core values and principles that guide our profession. Meeting Dr. Wedenoja for the first time, when people would struggle with pronouncing her name, she would simply say "Marilyn Wedenoja... nice to know ya". Her introduction spoke volumes about her approachability and desire to establish meaningful, collaborative relationships. She believed strongly that collaboration would yield the greatest outcome.

Dr. Wedenoja is a champion for individuals and families experiencing or impacted by chronic and persistent mental illness. Her engagement with the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) dates to 1985 with many leadership roles. She was recognized with the NAMI annual award for outstanding community service and in her retirement, remains an active member. As mentioned, within our school, Dr. Wedenoja was steadfast in ensuring that the most vulnerable populations remained a primary focus in the concentration. She taught these courses with enthusiasm and passion. Her 35 year commitment and service to those with mental illness is profound as she advanced conversations, education, policy and practice. While her impact is recognized locally, she engaged in expansive national and international scholarship focused on person centered planning and breaking through stigma.

With a desire to advance international experiences for students, Dr. Wedenoja was instrumental in two successful international programs in England and Jamaica. Specifically, she co-developed a learning experience for both undergraduate and graduate students in Jamaica. A poor rural village became the classroom for the study of poverty, racism, history of slavery, and family/community engagement. Students were challenged professionally and personally. While students raved about the experience, so did faculty that joined this group of learners.

Dr. Wedenoja loves research. A consummate teacher, Dr. Wedenoja taught research courses and was the mentor for many faculty teaching research. She engaged in numerous research and program evaluations for community organizations including Livingston County Community Mental Health and the University of Michigan Medical Center Department of Psychology. Dr. Wedenoja also presented and published on how to teach research.

As an expression of recognition and appreciation for Dr. Wedenoja's 28 years of dedication to our profession and the University, please join me in forwarding a recommendation that the rank of Professor Emeritus be conferred upon her by the Board of Regents of 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 Martinez

Current Status/Rank at EMU: Lecturer II

Date of Hire at EMU: 08/2005 Retirement Date: 08/31/2020

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

Degree(s)/Institutions
Doctoral: _____
Masters: MSW/Eastern Michigan University
Baccalaureate: BSW/Eastern Michigan 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.

Enos Massie 10/02/2020

Recommended by (please print) _____ Date _____

_____ 10/5/2020

Department Head _____ Date _____

Dean _____ Date _____

Provost _____ Date 11/10/20

_____ Date Submitted to Board of Regents

Please continue to page 2 of this application.

Support Letter for Laura M. Martinez, LMSW Emeritus Status

It is an honor to nominate Laura M. Martinez for Emeritus Faculty status. She is an astounding professor, advocate, activist, community organizer, mentor, scholar, colleague, and friend. Ms. Martinez has taught at Eastern Michigan University since 2008. She began her teaching career as a Lecturer and was subsequently promoted to a Full Time Lecturer. In 2013 Ms. Martinez was promoted to Full Time Lecturer II. Ms. Martinez is the first Latino women in the position of Full Time Lecturer at EMU. Ms. Martinez taught both undergraduate and graduate School of Social Work courses. Courses taught included: macro practice, community practice, social welfare history and policy, field practicum seminar, and practice with people of color. Her favorite courses to teach were the policy courses because she felt that helping students understand that they could change the world through advocacy and enacting policies was her greatest joy. Ms. Martinez's course evaluations were consistently stellar. Ms. Martinez maintained an impressive mastery of the overall social work curriculum. Her syllabi, assignments, course content, course presentations, and course lectures were a representation of this mastery. In addition to excellence in instruction, the evaluations demonstrate her willingness to provide professional guidance and advice to her students. Ms. Martinez's work with thousands of Latino students both at EMU and other latino social work students statewide is an important part of her legacy in the School of Social Work and the EMU community. The impact she made is immeasurable.

Ms. Martinez teaching proficiencies are well known throughout the Social Work community locally and nationally. Her former students consistently report that Ms. Martinez's courses impacted them professionally, making them better Social Work practitioners, advocates, and humanitarians. Throughout her teaching career Ms. Martinez made exceptional efforts to increase her knowledge of the content taught and the teaching process. Despite her impending retirement, Ms. Martinez became an exquisite online instructor during the past year. She participated in intensive training for online instruction, worked closely with Faculty Mentors focusing on online instruction, and participated in teaching circles for online instruction. She spent over 1000 hours developing course modules. Ms. Martinez was able to capture all of the nuances and innovative content that she brings to her face-to-face courses for her online courses.

In 2009, Ms. Martinez was a Full Time Lecturer with EMU's Study Abroad program at the University of Brighton, in Brighton, England. She was responsible for teaching Social Work practicum skills to EMU and University of Brighton students. Ms. Martinez also hosted a group of University of Brighton students at EMU as part of the student exchange program. Ms. Martinez was a key figure and leader in the School of Social Work's participation in LEAD Day in Lansing, Michigan. Ms. Martinez took over 1,000 students to Lansing over several years to participate in LEAD Day, visiting State Representatives to discuss local, state and national policy initiatives. Ms. Martinez always chose to ride the bus with the Social Work students. She used this time on the bus traveling to Lansing with students to facilitate student time management, strategy, and

professionalism for their upcoming meetings and to debrief the day during the trip back to campus.

Ms. Martinez worked collaboratively with her Social Work colleagues on several grants. These include Kinship Grants, Prisoner Re-entry Initiatives, and the EMU and Wayne County Collaboration to Support System-wide Implementation of Evidence-Based Practice in the Community Mental Health System. Ms. Martinez has been a critical figure in EMU-EMUFT, fighting for the rights of lecturers.

Ms. Martinez's work in the community on behalf of EMU has included: CHASS Growth Fund, Board Member; LaVida-Latina Domestic Violence Agency, Steering Committee Member; Organization of Latino Social Workers (OLASW), President, Board Member, and Member; La Familia-Multicultural Center, Board Member; Wayne County Council Against Family Violence, Co-Vice Chair; ACCESS, Advisory Board Member; National Association of Social Workers, Michigan Chapter, Board Member & Program Committee; EMU-Latino Advisory Committee, Committee Member; and Batterer Intervention Standards Committee (BIISC-MI), Board Member.

Ms. Martinez is the recipient of several notable awards and honors. These include: North American Indian Association of Detroit, Inc., Award for Working with Indian Child Welfare; Eastern Michigan University Social Work Gerontology, Distinguished Alumna Of The Year; NASW, Michigan Chapter, The Lisa Putnam Award; Eastern Michigan University, School of Social Work Distinguished Alumna of the Year; Spirit of Detroit Award, From Detroit City Council for her work in the Detroit community; Wayne County Council Against Family Violence, Spirit Award; Eastern Michigan University, Department of Academic Affairs, Outstanding Lecturer.

Ms. Laura Martinez's commitment to faculty, student, and staff within the School of Social Work, across the University, the region, and nationally makes her appointment as Emeritus Faculty an obvious, emergent, and urgent choice. Ms. Martinez's extraordinary teaching, service, collaborative research, local and national advocacy skills, and work history supports Emeritus Status.