Professor of German  
Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures  
University of West Georgia  
Annual Review 2012

I. Teaching

Dr. __________’s teaching in 2012 continued to set the highest standard. His course evaluations were excellent, both by quantitative and qualitative measurements, and he continued to work successfully at every level of the curriculum, from beginning language classes through the most advanced courses, while developing innovative new courses and re-designs of existing courses that deploy film, critical theory, and advancements in classroom technology. Dr. __________ is extraordinarily reflective and constructive in his approach to curricular design, be it of individual lesson plans, courses, or sequencing. The German program is unique in that students may complete a relatively large percentage of their core, major, and minor coursework by enrolling in the summer study abroad program in Oldenburg, and Dr. __________’s vision and leadership have ensured that articulation between on-campus offerings and those abroad is seamless. It is worth noting that Dr. __________ has historically taught numerous uncompensated overloads and, in so doing, has contributed to the impressive growth in the German program at UWG while serving students’ progress towards graduation by teaching core courses. Dr. __________ had an excellent year of teaching by any measure.

II. Research

Dr. __________ had a very productive year in 2012. His work in German film studies is unique and original, and in 2012 he built on this already international reputation, with two publications on Tom Tykwer’s film Winterschläfer accepted in peer-reviewed venues. He presented his work at three international conferences, while also serving as a commentator on a panel at the annual conference of the German Studies Association. He successfully designed a proposal for a competitively awarded grant to upgrade the testing software in the Foreign Language lab. These examples of scholarly work show Dr. __________’s critical voice to be valued highly in the profession and at the University of West Georgia. In short, Dr. __________’s scholarly reputation within the fields of German studies and Film studies is firmly established, and his sustained productivity is all the more impressive given the large teaching and service loads he has taken on at the University of West Georgia—exemplified, though far from exclusively so, by his inspiring leadership in the Oldenburg program, itself an extraordinary commitment of time, energy, and intellectual capital. In 2012, his research productivity was excellent.

III. Service

Dr. __________’s record of service in 2012—to the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures, the College of Arts and Humanities, the University of West Georgia, and the wider professional world—was excellent by any measure. The Department is fortunate to have such a staunch advocate of its interests. To cite but two of many compelling examples, Dr. __________ not only served as Director of the German summer study abroad program in Oldenburg in 2012, but is serving again in this capacity in 2013; much of the organizational planning and recruiting falls in calendar year 2012. As section head in German, Dr. __________, in addition to engaging with questions of curricular development, has been instrumental in promoting a strong selection of extracurricular activities, and, along with Dr. Cormican, has institutionalized GRMN3986, the Total Immersion Weekend, a unique and academically rigorous retreat in which faculty and students commit to communicating exclusively in the target language, learn
in an intensive and immersive environment, and build community. Dr. __________ describes this work as a “labor of love,” and indeed it is, but I would like here to unpack that phrase a bit and add: he has contributed, over many years now, an extraordinary amount of work and time to this endeavor, from the minute details of organizing a seamless and challenging academic program to arranging the logistics of the weekend in John Tanner State park; and this work is animated by love—love of craft, manifesting itself in pedagogical precision and the desire to challenge students to do more than they thought themselves capable of; love of the human possibilities inherent in the cross-cultural encounter; and, ultimately, love that manifests itself in a compelling generosity of spirit and intellect. In 2012, Dr. __________ had an excellent year of service.

In all aspects of his work during 2012, Dr. __________ demonstrated a record of sustained excellence.

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Dr. Felix W. Tweraser
Chair, Foreign Languages and Literatures

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Dr. __________