

School of Education, Health and Human Services

May 25, 2018

Appointment, Promotion and Tenure Committee Drake Memorial Library

Dear Members of the APT Committee.

I write today in enthusiastic support of Logan Rath's promotion to the rank of Librarian. Logan serves as an expert librarian for three departments in the School of Education, Health and Human Services: Education and Human Development, Social Work, and Public Health & Health Education. The faculty and students in each of these departments are unanimous in their appreciation for his many contributions to their work. I know Logan's work best through my experiences as a faculty member and chair of the department of Education and Human Development, and my examples will draw on those experiences.

Over the years Logan has worked collaboratively with faculty members to develop materials and instruction that will best support undergraduate and graduate students' learning. Rather than waiting for faculty members to come to him, Logan reaches out to faculty—particularly those who are new to Brockport—to offer his services and to ask how he can best support their work. I've been impressed with the ways that he shares possibilities, thinks creatively, and problem solves with faculty members to meet their needs as teachers and scholars. From creating online modules to leading seminars on how to use the library, from coaching graduate students on how to conduct literature searches to guiding students and faculty through using Zotero, Logan makes significant contributions to our community of learners.

I'll use my own classes to provide examples. Over the past several years I have taught EDI 645 Research in Literacy Education and EDI 736 Literacy Seminar. In this two-semester sequence, graduate students in our Literacy MSEd program learn to interpret and critique various forms of educational research, identify a research question related to their own teaching practice, review the literature related to that question, design and carry out a teacher-research study, and write a capstone paper that is published in Digital Commons. That's a heavy load for students and faculty member alike—and Logan supports all of us along the way. When we determined that our graduate students struggled with using APA style, Logan designed and implemented a learning module that he embedded in EDI 645. He came to our classes each semester to lead sessions on effective search strategies and how to use Zotero to its full potential. I was consistently impressed with not just Logan's knowledge of the topics, but his understanding and use of effective pedagogical strategies. And as a bonus, his sense of humor and vivid examples kept us all engaged.

I am also impressed with the way Logan builds and sustains ongoing professional mentoring relationships with our students. Students take full advantage of the opportunities Logan provides for research support. They report that he holds high expectations for their preparedness and work, and that his support helps them meet those expectations. At the end of this past academic year, almost all of my EDI 736 students wrote about the incredible value of his contributions to their successful completion of their graduate capstone projects.

When I was chairperson of Education and Human Development, we were searching for an adjunct faculty member to teach our Critical Multiliteracies courses. Based on his work with EHD faculty and students, we invited Logan to talk with us about teaching the course. I was immediately taken with the ways he made connections between his work in information literacy and technologies and the area of critical multiliteracies. Logan impressed me with his intellectual curiosity and his thoughtful approach to course design. Our students have rich learning experiences in his courses and rate his teaching as highly effective. Likewise, those faculty with whom he collaborates cite his generosity, inventiveness, and focus on active engagement as highlights of his work as an instructor.

Logan is an insatiable learner and an innovator. He is a collaborator who listens well to others, communicates his own thinking clearly, and makes any group he is in more productive and thoughtful. Logan makes significant contributions to the College, and I look forward to working with him for a very long time. I offer my strongest support for his promotion to librarian.

All the best,

Sue Robb, Associate Dean

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