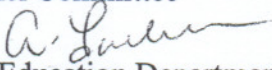


To: School of Education Personnel Committee
From: Andrea Lachance, Chair 
Childhood/Early Childhood Education Department
Date: March 20, 2009
Re: Reappointment of Dr. Kimberly Rombach, Assistant Professor

I am pleased to recommend **Dr. Kimberly Rombach** for a **one-year reappointment as Assistant Professor**. Dr. Rombach will be reviewed for continuing appointment in the 2009-2010 academic year, hence the limitation on her reappointment term. This recommendation is in line with the recommendation made by the Department Personnel Committee.

Teaching

The evidence in her portfolio suggests Dr. Rombach is an outstanding teacher. Her CTE's are consistently in the highest range from 4.5 – 5.0. Student comments are equally positive and glowing. Most recent comments include, "You are honestly one of the best teachers I have had at Cortland. Thank you for caring about us and also for all of your effort to prepare us to be the best teachers possible," and, "You are caring and enthusiastic about what you do! You are a role model for future teachers, and I am grateful for being your student. I will take all that you have taught me into my future classroom." It is very clear that Dr. Rombach connects with her students and motivates them to do their best work.

Dr. Rombach's portfolio also suggests she is a reflective practitioner. She is constantly evaluating her course activities and content to improve them. This semester, she has chosen a new textbook and developed new activities in EDU 510: Inquiry into Teaching, Technology and Research, to increase the rigor in this course. Dr. Rombach utilizes multiple teaching strategies, including cooperative learning groups, on-line resources, connections to the community, and multiple curricular materials. From all her efforts, it is clear Dr. Rombach is very concerned with having students meet high standards through carefully planned instruction.

Scholarship

Dr. Rombach is making strong progress in her research agenda. In the last year, she has one article in press for the Electronic Journal in Inclusive Special Education, and two papers published in conference proceedings. One more article is under review. Dr. Rombach has completed three presentations at regional and national conferences in the last year.

Dr. Rombach has also received several grants. With Dr. Susan Stratton, Dr. Rombach is co-PI on a New York Higher Education Support Center for Systems Change Research Grant. In the past year, she has worked with Dr. David Smukler on a Professional Development School Grant entitled: The Unified Teaching and Learning Initiative (UTLI). In addition, Dr. Rombach has been the recipient of several internal grants including several SCAP grants, a Faculty Research Program Grant, and several course development grants.

Throughout all her scholarly efforts, Dr. Rombach maintains a focus on preservice teacher education and inclusive education. Her on-going, integrated work will enable her to continue to expand her expertise and contributions in these areas. I fully expect that her scholarly efforts will lead to even more extensive contributions to our field.

Service

Dr. Rombach has engaged in a vast array of service activities. Among her college committee memberships are the Faculty Development Committee, Long Range Planning committee, and Field Experience Advisory Committee. At the department level, Dr. Rombach serves as the Master of Science in Teaching Program Coordinator and is a member of the Personnel Committee and the Research and Technology Committee, among others. She also participates in her professional organizations by reviewing conference proposals and papers.

Although she maintains an extensive list of service activities, what is really extraordinary about Dr. Rombach's service is the dedication she brings to each of her many service commitments. Having observed her service first hand, I know that Dr. Rombach takes her work in the area of service extremely seriously. She often volunteers for difficult tasks and follows through on each commitment she makes.

As Dr. Rombach's chair, I am very grateful for the high quality work she does in all areas of faculty work: teaching, scholarship, and service. Her work ethic, level of commitment, and dedication are inspirational for our students and our colleagues. I look forward to Dr. Rombach's continued positive contributions to our department, school and college.