

To: Andrea Lachance, Chair, Childhood/Early Childhood Education Department

From: Childhood/Early Childhood Personnel Committee

Date: October 9, 2009

Re: Continuing Appointment of **Dr. Lin Lin, Assistant Professor**

After reviewing Dr. Lin Lin's reappointment portfolio, the Childhood/Early Childhood Personnel Committee voted unanimously to recommend **Dr. Lin Lin** for continuing appointment. Dr. Lin received credit for previous teaching experience in China, and she is to be commended for her accomplishments within a shortened tenure clock period.

Teaching

Dr. Lin masterfully communicates concrete examples of her course content and the ideas she is expressing to the students. She has taught social studies methods for childhood and early childhood majors at both the undergraduate and graduate level. It is evident through her course assessments, student feedback, and examples of student work that students internalize the content and the concepts of social studies learning.

Dr. Lin has admirably demonstrated professional teaching wisdom through effectively conveying content matter and instructional knowledge to our college students, and by extension, how to provide authentic examples and experiences to children. She has effectively taught the multiple concepts inherent in the idea of democracy, and through that communication brings to life concepts of democracy that deepen our students' understanding. Students appreciate her extraordinary abilities in this area, especially because of the cultural dimension added by her life and work in China.

Dr. Lin's confidence has grown during her time at Cortland and with it she has become very open and successful at trying new teaching methods and altering assignments as needed to reach her course goals. She successfully built community among students taking her on-line course.

CTE scores for Dr. Lin are consistently at or above average for the Childhood/Early Childhood Education Department, from the mid 4's to 5's, and student comments are enthusiastically positive. Examples of themes that consistently appear in those comments are:

- *Lin Lin is the first teacher that I have had that has taught her class with such enthusiasm every day. I am very appreciative of the time she took on making sure I was able to understand and keep up with the class. Lin Lin took all the time necessary to help me in*

breaking assignments up in a "language" in which I would follow, no matter what the class activity was within the classroom. I was always able to feel comfortable knowing Lin Lin would be there to help.

- *Out of my 3.5 years at Cortland, I would have to say this is definitely the course that taught me the most. Lin Lin has definitely made me realize that teaching is what I want to do. She also happens to be my favorite professor.*

Despite an early course with lower than expected CTEs, Dr. Lin has effectively addressed and resolved the issues. She has also sought collaboration with peers and has successfully incorporated peer review and feedback as a regular part of improving her courses.

Like all faculty in the Childhood/Early Childhood Education Department, Dr. Lin carries a heavy load of advisees. She has worked to be a good advisor to her students and also provides advisement and advice to the students she teaches. Further, she is very good at personalizing the process so that students feel confident in their schedule planning.

Scholarship

Dr. Lin has five publications in her area of social studies, and has presented her work at 10 conferences, including internationally recognized venues. Three 2009 publications indicate that she and her co-authors have established themselves as prominent writers on the topic of Chinese, Korean and Japanese political and military events. Further, they have translated this information into the ideas communicated in teaching multiple perspectives in social studies. Particularly to be noted are the cross-cultural publications appearing in the *International Education Journal*, *Establishing the Need for Cross-Cultural and Global Issues Research*.

Further, her local research and work using trade books as an anchor for exploring women's roles in modern history for the middle childhood level is significant. In it she uses the text *Amelia to Zora: Twenty-Six Women Who Changed the World* to develop an extensive unit for middle childhood students to develop an understanding of women's roles in modern history.

The Childhood/Early Childhood Department guidelines for scholarly projects include two scholarly works per year, and Dr. Lin has exceeded department expectations in this area.

Service

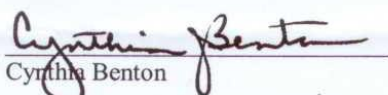
Dr. Lin has established an agenda of formal committee work, as is evident from her portfolio.

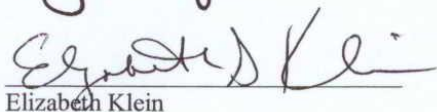
Her local and community contributions include numerous presentations at SUNY Cortland and at area schools. She has initiated admirable collaborative and partnership activities. Further, her international activist work in supplying school materials to students at the Mwanje School in Malawi, Africa in conjunction with the National Council of Social Studies is also to be applauded.


With the trajectory that she is on, the committee fully expects to see Dr. Lin take on serious leadership roles within the department, school and college in the near future. As she moves to a

more senior member of the college community, we hope to see more significant experiences on established college-wide committees. Because she brought in years of service elsewhere and was on a short time clock at Cortland, she has not had as many years of opportunity to develop leadership experience as some seeking continuing appointment. Yet, we are confident she has demonstrated the qualities of leadership necessary to make long-term significant contributions to the Department and College.

Dr. Lin Lin is a delightful colleague and an inspirational teacher, especially for junior faculty members. She is a conscientious and supportive department member, and we recommend her for continuing appointment, confident of the professional long-term accomplishments she will demonstrate.


Cynthia Benton


Elizabeth Klein


Susan Stratton


Orvil White