

To: Art Department Evaluation Committee
From: Brad Pattullo, Personal Representative
Date: October 30, 2020
Re: Peer Evaluation for Professor Brian Fuller

Professor Brian Fuller is a professor of Film and Video production in the Edinboro University Art Department. Professor Fuller is a full-time tenure-track faculty member, hired in 2018, in his third probationary year. He holds three degrees: an Associate of Arts from Montreat-Anderson College (1983); a Bachelor of Arts in Broadcasting and Cinema from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (1986); and a Master of Fine Arts in Film and Video Production, also from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro (1992). Additionally, Professor Fuller has acquired additional trainings that are too numerous to mention; these trainings involving software and post production techniques related to all aspects of cinema. Professor Fuller brings nearly three decades of experience, both in teaching and professional productions – his past credits include dozens of film festivals, publications, scholarly essays, stage productions, and an Emmy award win for his experimental film *Falloff*. I am honored to have the opportunity to review Professor Fuller's work and to prepare and facilitate his evaluation application.

Teaching and Professional Responsibilities

As a member of Professor Brian Fuller's hiring committee, and as a close colleague, it would be difficult to overstate the enormous impact and influence Brian has had here. In his first couple of years, he has completely rebuilt the film and video production student workspaces and redesigned the pedagogical strategy of the program. He built several working facilities for students to use, including a functioning sound booth, a color correction station, and several dedicated non-linear editing stations. All of these rooms are exceptionally presented and equipped with state-of-the-art equipment due to Professor Fuller's diligent research and extensive knowledge in his area of expertise. Professor Fuller also spent an extensive amount of time cataloging and organizing the equipment checkout room, which is used by both film and animation students. His efforts have created a comfortable yet professional workspace for our students, who can now better understand the flow of film and video production. Professor Brian Fuller's teaching is as impressive as his work ethic. I observed one of his Film 2 (ART 367) classes, which are meeting on Zoom due to Covid-19. He seems to have been able to adequately adapt his learning objectives for online instruction, as evidenced by the work the students were screening on that day. Professor Fuller began the critique by providing the students questions (What do we want more of? What isn't clear? What do we want less of? What is the film's weakest moment?) to ask themselves while watching their peers' "assembly edits", and students were asked to use these questions as a framework for their critique of their classmates' work. The critique proceeded in a respectful and thoughtful manner, with Professor Fuller providing insight and summarizing the feedback at the end of each discussion, giving each student clear direction for their projects. This same class was observed a week earlier by Professor Sue Amendolara, who provided similar observations. Professor Amendolara concluded, "The environment of the class was respectful, yet relaxed and the students were able to speak openly and honestly. Brian was sensitive and positive minded in critique yet firm in his suggestions." Fuller's student evaluations are also complementary and reveal no areas of concern. Additionally, Professor Fuller

maintains an extensive website (brianfuller.org), that serves as a comprehensive learning tool to supplement his pedagogy. The website contains everything from syllabi for current courses to equipment checkout room hours to scholarly examinations of recent movies (Fuller seems to be a fan of Roger Eggers' recent work, as am I).

Scholarly Growth

Professor Brian Fuller maintains an active record of scholarly work, whether it's the aforementioned scholarly essays (in 2018 he wrote a detailed analysis of the gender politics in the Netflix series *Jessica Jones*), building film festival credits, or doing special projects that benefit the University. Two of these special projects were presented on May 2, 2019 as part of the celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of Edinboro's Cinema program. There was *Weinkauf Remembers*, a tightly edited composition chronicling the history of the Cinema program, as narrated by its founder, Dave Weinkauf, which preceded the student film festival at the end of the Spring 2019 semester; and *Cinema 50*, a somehow even more impressive display that was projected onto the side of Doucette Hall after the film festival had ended. *Cinema 50* was produced and meticulously edited by Fuller, and represented a retrospective of Edinboro student films from the last fifty years; it was on display during a reception that was held in the courtyard outside of the northwest corner of the building. Yet another display for *ART 100*, this time representing all of the areas of the Art Department, was produced and edited by Fuller and also projected on the side of Doucette during a reception on September 26, 2019. This reception followed the premiere of the *ART 100* documentary, which was screened at Cole Auditorium. Additionally, film work that Professor Fuller wrote or co-wrote screened in several film festivals last year, including the Pittsburgh Independent Film Festival and the New York Independent Aphrodite Film Awards.

Campus and Community Service

In addition to the aforementioned special projects, and the aforementioned upgrades to the film and video production facilities in Doucette, Professor Brian Fuller makes a welcome service contribution to the Art Department and the University. Some highlights include the University-Wide Sabbatical Committee and the University-Wide Curriculum Committee, where he serves as assistant chair. Professor Fuller frequently participates in Open House and other recruiting events, and he spent a considerable amount of time creating and hanging digital signage and posters throughout Doucette. Additionally, as a longtime member of the University Film and Video Association, he serves as a judge for the Carol Fielding Grant (a grant that supports student film productions and research proposals) and a reviewer for the *Journal of Film and Video*.

Conclusion

Professor Brian Fuller has proved to be an excellent addition to the Edinboro University Art Department; I am pleased to report that he is performing well under all areas under review. His tireless efforts in service to the Film and Video program benefits the entire campus community; he is a talented artist and a caring, articulate instructor who serves the University with distinction. I have every confidence that students in the Film and Video area are receiving the best possible preparation for their careers. Animation students who take his courses as electives (including the very popular Light and Sound class) report that the skills developed in those classes enhance and underscore the work they are doing in their animation courses, and this is readily evident in the work that they produce. This sub-committee strongly recommends that Professor Fuller be retained for his fourth probational year.