Faculty Activity Report

Ron Dwelle

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Name:  Ron Dwelle

Rank or Position:  Associate Professor

Unit:  English Department Unit

Date:  March 1, 1994

Information provided should apply to the 1993 calendar year. Professional activities and achievements should be identified with specific dates.

Please submit the completed form to your unit head by March 4, 1994, at the latest.

Unit heads should submit forms to the Dean's office by April Fool's Day, 1994, to be placed in each faculty member's Personnel file.

I. Effective teaching performance. This includes, but is not limited to knowledge of the field taught, classroom and tutorial performance, communication skills, human relations skills, evaluations skills, curricular development, and performance as an academic advisor. All academic units will use student evaluations as one method to determine teaching effectiveness of faculty members.

Courses taught:

Winter Semester. First, let me note that I forgot all about this damn form until this morning, so I won't be able to devote the time to it that I would like to. Usually, I like to ridicule the form, which I think is ridiculous, but I don't have time. So let me just say, "WHY ARE WE STILL USING THIS STUPID FORM?" (For newcomers, I'll mention that I prepared a perfectly spectacular form that would actually do somebody some good, back in 1987, but it was rejected somewhere up the administrative hierarchy, so we're still stuck with this ocnophilic excuse for a faculty report.

Last winter? Think I taught a 150, and a Shakespeare. I had lots of "effective teaching performance" (see sub-heading above), though I don't remember many details of it. I was especially good in the "communication skills" sub-category, since I avoided terminology like "ocnophilic" and "ekphrastic," though I did let slip an "antanaclasis" and a "zeugma" in talking about one of Hamlet's soliloquies. (I don't think the students noticed, though.)

Summer Semester. No summer school last summer (for the 25th consecutive summer). I may have to work on that next summer. I would also like it noted that the term "human relations skills" in the sub-heading at the top of this page DOES REQUIRE a hyphen between "human" and "relations"—"human-relations skills." Can't we fix this error? (Since I have pointed this out numerous times before, perhaps I am falling down in my communication-skills category [note the proper hyphen]).

Fall Semester. Regarding the criteria listed above, I did do lots of communication skills, human-relations skills, evaluation skills (see above) in one section of comp and in one section of Shakespeare. I had one course released time, which I spent in the computer classroom doing lots of communications skills, human-relation skills, evaluation skills (see above). I might as well add—regarding the sub-head above—that the series of criteria listed is hopelessly unparallel. If one of my students in Advanced Comp handed in a mucked-up sentence like that, I would give it right back and tell them to go fix it.
and not insult me by handing in such poorly wrought English again.

Other Activities related to this category:

This is the 10th time I've filled out this form, and I still have no idea what should go in this slot. I've always thought of myself as a professional teacher, which to me means that everything I do is related to this category (yes, even my visits to the Grand Rapids Brew-Pub).

Release time (amount, purpose, and outcomes):

I'll try (for another year) to get everybody to call it "released time" rather than "release time," since the participle is preferred by anyone who has a clue about how the English language works. But as noted above, had release time to super the computer lab.

II. Professional achievement in the area of responsibility.
This includes, but is not limited to professional research, creative activities, scholarly writing, participation in professional activities, degrees and continued education.

1. Papers Presented at Professional Meetings (provide title of paper, organization, and date)

A. Didn't do any of these—too busy grading papers. Though I did put on sailorty presentations: one in Holland, Michigan, one in Grosse Pointe, Michigan, and one in Grand Bend, Ontario. However, I got paid for these, so they probably shouldn't be counted.


Where would I fit into that scheme?

Actually, I'm thinking of submitting a paper—"From Buddha to Derrida: The Ocnophilology of God-Figures Whose Names End in '-duh." The first sentence reads: "Putting aside the self-doubts of parergonal detail in the Kantian paradigm, the modality's representation of an ocnophilic art form as a reflexive device of mimetic unreason replicates a major theoretical shift that parallels Riffaterre's notion of the hypogram, the semiotic matrix expressing a dominant cultural metalanguage and other signifying systems."

C. That reminds me. We didn't do any English-department presentations this year. Too busy pumping out those conference papers. Too bad.

2. Publications (Journals and Books)

A. While I was looking for the definition of "refereed," as in "refereed," I could not find an explanation of the meaning of "refereed epic." Homer was considered "refereed epic?"

B. Actually, I'm looking for the definition of "refereed," as in "refereed," as in "refereed epic." The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All. The reference is to the Bakhtin and Other Y'All.


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D. That reminds me. We didn't do any English-department presentations this year. Too busy pumping out those conference papers. Too bad.

3. Books (provisional)

No books this year. Since I couldn't find a copy of Seidman (McGraw-Hill), it seems there's only a new edition out. I'll have to get back to that. Weird. Besides weird.

4. Exhibitions

I sang "Starry, Starry Night,"
2. Publications - Refereed Journals and Non-refereed Journals (provide full bibliographic citations).

A. While I was in the library looking up "ekphrastic," I also tried to look up "refereed," as in "Refereed Journals," with similar success. Even Lee Lebbin could not find a list of which journals are refereed and which are non-refereed? How many referees do you need to make something a refereed journal? Is the New Yorker refereed? (God forbid if someone publishes there, if it’s not.) Is the meaning of "refereed" as obscure as "ekphrastic" or "ocnophilic"? I wonder if Homer was concerned that his little "Shield of Achilles" thing didn’t make it into a refereed epic?

B. Actually, I submitted a scholarly essay—"The Ekphrastic Ocnophilistine in Bakhtin and Other Ointments"—to the refereed journal Metalanguage: Foucault Y’All. The referees gave it 5.7s and 5.8s on technical merit, along with high ordinals, but while I was waiting for my artistic-interpretation scores, I saw Nancy Kerrida walking around with a tire iron, eyeing my kneecaps, and I grabbed my article and got the hell out of Lillehammer. You can’t be too careful these days.

C. Anybody wants a list of my pubs for 1993 should send me a SASE and a check for $30 and I will start typing it. Or it’s available by anonymous FTP from gopher mirror sites on the AI Gore network—log in as “guest” and request “.hqx” format; then, at the “Which Host?” prompt, type “Go Pub/Perish BoatStud” and follow the on-screen instructions. Or better yet, just subscribe to four magazines which are the only places I publish anyway: Cruising World, the heavy weight (250,000 subscribers), owned by the Time/Warner criminals; Sailing, which is the heavily photoed tabloid-shape mag where my text is used mostly for filler between the pictures; Practical Sailor, a consumer’s-report type (though with some of the best technical writing you’ll find anywhere); and Lifeline, which is my own little Great Lakes jewel. You’ll find lots of other good writers (though they do tend to be a little weak on the multisyllabic nominalizations required by referees). Also lots of nice pictures. Which reminds me: I never get credit for all the photos I publish. Am I getting screwed here, professionally? Bring on the referees! A judgement! A judgement!

3. Books (provide full literature citations):

No books this year. I could list a book I edited—On The Wind, by David Seidman (McGraw Hill, 1994), but I don't know what to make of it. It is really only a new edition and a new title for the book I edited two years ago. The text is totally unchanged, but they added lots of illustrations and changed the title. Weird. Besides which, the author insults me in his Foreword.

4. Exhibitions and Performances (provide names and dates):

I sang “Starry, starry night...” at full volume on the beach at Bay Mills.
Michigan, last summer. I also performed in a new form of musical abuse—called "karaoke"—in Grand Bend, Ontario, last spring. I performed "I am Woman, Hear Me Roar" or perhaps something else—it was late at night and I'm not too confident of the particulars. Both events are still being talked about. Just ask any Great-Lakes sailor. Provide names? I don't think so. One of my fellow Karaokers is Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Canada and he would as soon forget the whole thing.

5. **Offices held in Professional Organizations** (provide office held, organizations, years):

Successfully avoided.

6. **Consultation** (provide list of consultation experiences, with dates):  

I still wonder what a "consultation experience" is. I experienced a lot of consultations with regard to computers this year. Unfortunately, I never wore a tie and didn't charge $100/hour, so I can't list them. And, having been happily married for 10, these last 12 years, I had no dates to have consultation experiences with.

7. **Degree(s) received** (specify institution and field):  

Actually, one of our chair candidates asked me that. "How many of your colleagues received new degrees this year?" When I replied "none," he turned very morose and I believe was even inclined to withdraw his candidacy. Who would want to chair a department where the faculty are not out getting new degrees every year?

8. **Professional Meetings attended**:

Afraid I'm weak in this category. Then again, I'm not exactly sure what a professional meeting is—maybe a department meeting? Naw—they haven't been very professional lately!

9. **Honors and Awards received**:  

Can't think of any. Oh yeah, I got a letter from Linda Yuhas [sic] telling me to come to the GVSU Human Resources Office [sic] by May 1, 1994, to pick out a watch that will be given to me at the Staff Holiday Party [sic] where I will be honored. I take it that this is the objective correlative of a Purple Heart, Grand-Valley-wise.

10. **Other**:  

Other what?

Other book review—is that the title. Maybe I should call Dave Glied (presentation [italic]) one. I also discussed my spellchecker troubles on the significance of Uneducated Dumb.

III. **Unit and College Membership, Organizations**, limited to, proposal writing:

A bunch of people in the classroom. I almost feel like I have a name. However, nominating that we bring in service to the unit.

IV. **Community service**, membership, organizations:

Did mostly sail Harding, trying (as it were) in organizing a political left in the world. Increase from Education. Time, cut off we service to the servant or what.
musical abuse—called "I am Woman, Hear me Roar"—last night and I'm not too sure what I talked about. Just ask my fellow students. One of my fellow colleagues said, "Naw and he would as well."

10: Other:

Other what? (That reminds me. I actually may have published one thing—a book review—in some journal other than a sailing mag, though I'm not sure of the title. Maybe Journal of Great Lakes Maritime History. Better call the editor: Dave Gliek (813-283-5049). Oh, yes, I also realized that the Holland presentation (item II, 1. A, page 3) was in 1994 and not in 1993. So skip that one. I also discovered that when you type "Derrida" in Microsoft Word, the spellchecker tries to change it to "deride." I will prepare a scholarly presentation on the significance of that, and try to publish it along with my article, "Why Only Uneducated Dummies Think Hamlet Is A Play.")

III. Unit and College service. This includes, but is not limited to, committee work, curriculum development, proposal writing, and special assignment.

A bunch of personnel stuff. Also the writing committee. And the computer classroom. I also attended convocation and December graduation, so I don't feel like I have to do much else to get high marks in this category. I will, however, nominate Jeff Gillooley to be our next Department Chair and suggest that we bring in referees for future Department meetings. That would be a real service to the unit.

IV. Community service. Includes, but is not limited to membership, participation, and leadership in community organizations.

Did mostly sailing stuff this year. I have done a lot of talking up of Tonya Harding, trying to get people to quit trashing her. I am one of the heavyweights (as it were) in the Grand Valley Homebrewer's Club. I am thinking about organizing a political action committee to try to find out if there are any liberals left in the world or if they've all gone mush-headed like Clinton. I took my salary increase from Engler without publically noting the fact that he had, at the same time, cut off welfare aid to 16,000 children in Michigan. Am I a dedicated public servant or what?