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UNIVERSITY

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January 30, 2010

Professor Bill Reader  
E. W. Scripps School of Journalism  
Ohio University  
Athens, Ohio 45701

Dear Bill:

The School's Peer Review Committee, which I chaired this year, met on January 29 to evaluate faculty members. Based on your annual peer review report, the committee evaluated you as follows in the school's three areas in the Promotion and Tenure Policy:

**Teaching and Advising—Exceeds Expectations**

The committee commended you for your very high student course evaluation scores, of 4.75 out of 5.0, up from 4.68 last year. Your excellent classroom work was particularly noted in that of the seven courses you taught in calendar year 2009, two were new preps, and that in one of those courses, Advanced Editing, you chose to incorporate multimedia, which fits nicely with the faculty's efforts to update the Scripps School curriculum. The committee also applauded your conducting two HTC tutorials, your chairing of a successful master's thesis committee, and your ongoing chairing of the master's theses and projects of four students. Your dedication in writing letters of recommendation for students and your extremely high evaluation scores for your student advising (4.89 out of 5.0, up from 4.27 the year before) were noted with approval.

**Research/Creative Activity—Exceeds Expectations**

The committee commended your extremely productive year for research and creative activity. Your completion of the draft of a manuscript as lead editor for an under-contract book, *Foundations of Community Journalism*, including your authorship of two chapters, was applauded, as was your being chosen to serve as guest editor for a special issue of *Newspaper Research Journal* on the future of community newspapers. The committee noted that the quality of your scholarship is evident in your having co-authored an article that appeared in the flagship journal of our profession, *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, about letters in alternative magazines. The committee also congratulates you on your completion of a chapter on "Enlightenment Ethics and DIY Culture" for the book *The Ethics of Entertainment*. Your published book review about a history text and your reviewing of two book manuscripts, two JMCQ articles, four articles for NRJ, and submissions to the Community Journalism Interest Group of AEJMC were seen as further evidence of your engagement with serious research in national and international forums.

**Service—Exceeds Expectations**

The committee noted your willingness to cut back on service, as stated in previous peer evaluations. Still, the committee said you must be commended for your continued service to academic organizations, professional groups, and community. Your helping the Scripps School at the last minute in summer 2009 to run the High School Journalism Workshop after a colleague fell ill was particularly noteworthy. Also earning praise were your work with the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund internship program, your being nominated to run for a position on the Professional Freedom and Responsibility Committee of AEJMC, your service on school

committees including your chairing the "specialization" subcommittee of the curriculum committee, and your editing the monthly newsletter of the *Route 7 Report* until its ceasing publication in June 2009.

The committee congratulates you on a very productive year in all areas on which faculty are evaluated, and looks forward to publication of *Foundations of Community Journalism* and the appearance of your special edition of *Newspaper Research Journal*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael Sweeney". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Michael S. Sweeney, Chair  
Peer Review Committee