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School of Music
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
P.O. Box 41207
Lafayette, LA 70508-1207

To whom it may concern:

I am pleased to write this letter in support of the promotion of Dr. Robert Willey to Professor of Music.

Dr. Willey is an experienced professional in the field of music technology who has led significant initiatives for international collaboration between institutions, has taught successfully for many years at the university level, and has established top-level music facilities for pedagogy and production.

I'm sure that you have been favorably impressed, as I have, by his successful fundraising and establishment of music technology facilities at your School of Music. The entrepreneurial spirit he has displayed in seeking and successfully obtaining grants for new facilities for your School, combined with the hard work he has devoted to seeing the implementation of those facilities through to completion, is found only in a very few individuals. This is the type of initiative and accomplishment that is envied at top-tier universities, and the facilities that he has been instrumental in establishing at your School are forward-looking and well conceived for the education of your students.

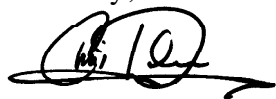
Dr. Willey is a leading expert in the editing and arrangement of the music of Conlon Nancarrow, one of the twentieth century's most adventurous composers. Last year Willey organized an international online symposium on Nancarrow and his music that attracted participation and attendance by scholars around the world. His arrangements of Nancarrow's music for Disklavier and synthesizer have been played several times in California (including here at UC Irvine), Delaware, Michigan, Texas, and Washington, as well as in Norway and Serbia. His creative use of the Internet provided a welcome opportunity for scholarship in these times of reduced travel budgets, and has resulted in an important website dedicated to Nancarrow's music.

Years ago I had the pleasure of co-teaching several university-level courses in computer music with Dr. Willey. I remember being impressed by the friendly rapport he engendered with the students, and the careful, thoughtful planning he devoted to each lesson. I can thus attest, based on firsthand experience, that he is a well-liked and successful teacher in the field of new music media, which is his specialty.

His acumen and abilities in the field of new music technologies and his experience and capability in teaching new technology topics make him an ideal person to be serving as Coordinator of your Music Media division, and a valuable member of your School who would not be easily replaced. These reasons, in combination with his record of accomplishment in building your programs and facilities in music technology, make a very strong case for awarding him promotion.

I would be happy to have Dr. Willey as a colleague, and I feel he is a great asset for your School. I heartily endorse his promotion to full Professor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'CD', with a stylized flourish extending from the bottom.

Christopher Dobrian
Professor of Music and Informatics