

To Members of the Review Committee,

I am writing this letter in support of Anne Penner's process to become a full professor. I believe that her hard work and dedication to the University's theatre department as well as the broader DU community makes her an outstanding and deserving candidate. As a recently graduated student who has worked closely with her over my four years, I believe she is one of, if not the most enthusiastic, dedicated, in-touch, supportive, and influential professors.

My first interaction with Professor Penner was at the end of my first year; I was in her *Honors Acting I* class. The unique thing about nearly all theatre courses at DU is that they are open to any and all students as an AI Society, not just for theatre majors like myself. I saw Professor Penner's commitment to the breadth of students in this course as there was great diversity in experience and comfort with acting. As I also saw in subsequent courses with Professor Penner, she was and is committed to learn about all students, their lives outside of class, and their aspirations.

I happened to be taking Professor Penner's *Voice and Movement for the Actor* course the quarter we were entirely online in Spring of 2020. I was really apprehensive to stay in this course given the online environment as its curriculum was hypothetically reliant on an in-person model. However, this course ended up becoming a very positive outlet and growing environment despite the circumstances. Professor Penner adapted beautifully, crafting one-on-one Zoom meetings to reflect upon our interaction with the course's material as well as a very important journal assignment. During a time of isolation and struggle, Professor Penner worked to understand and create positive discussion surrounding the issues we were all facing, and I am truly grateful I had her and this course during that time for support.

During my graduating quarter, Spring of 2022, I took *Acting III*. Professor Penner took on a big challenge on behalf of the course by deciding we would showcase an entire play. This is no small feat in a ten week course, but this was the challenge that us committed actors were craving in this advanced-level course. I learned so much in this time, and Professor Penner made an outstanding collaborative environment. I am grateful not only for these courses which have broadened my

acting and interpersonal skills, but also the guidance and encouragement that Professor Penner has and continues to provide.

Respectfully,

Emma Walker

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