



SMU

MEADOWS SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

March 1, 2019

Dr. Michael Lively
Lecturer in Music Theory
Division of Music
Meadows School of the Arts
Southern Methodist University

Dear Michael,

In accordance with faculty policies of Southern Methodist University, this letter will serve as your formal evaluation for the 2018 calendar year in the Division of Music at SMU. In the lecturer position, generally only teaching is evaluated for merit. However, it should be noted that you have also been active in research.

Your teaching load is numerically where it should be, but I must point out that teaching two musicianship courses in one semester is a unique challenge; therefore, I would say that you are slightly above load. Your evaluations are generally excellent in the undergraduate courses, although there was one disgruntled outlier in one of your evaluations. Our graduate theory courses are generally some of the more difficult for us theory faculty to teach. For some reason, a few of our graduate students simply are not willing to be convinced that music theory and analysis can be a significant aid to the practicing musician. Perhaps the idea of an "academic degree" is not well understood by some of our Master of Music students. All of that said, I must admit that it is always a challenge for us to relate theoretical ideas to practical musicianship, and I urge you to continue to struggle with this. So far, you are having great success, and I would consider you a fine and gifted teacher of theory and musicianship. To help further document this, please try to foster a higher response rate on your student evaluations, especially in the one-on-one advanced musicianship courses, which you teach very frequently.

Given your full-time teaching duties, your continued research activities deserve high praise.

Your record of departmental service has continued to be outstanding. Your contributions in the area of curriculum are invaluable. You have also been a dependable participant in music faculty meetings and governance.

Best wishes,

David Mancini
Director, Division of Music

I have reviewed the information above and understand that I can provide a direct response to the Dean.

Faculty member signature, date