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To Who it May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of Professor Erin Brooks and her reappointment for tenure.

Professor Brooks and I have worked together on various lecture concerts and her input has been invaluable.

The Hermann Zilcher recital where Crane faculty and students performed various pieces from the vast oeuvre of Zilcher's music was superb. Professor Brooks led the audience through Zilcher's life including the delicate period of the National Socialist government in Germany. Her lecture was excellent (and entertaining) with visuals, using various pictures shown during the lecture. One student told me that it was the best concert she had experienced at Crane. Erin had to discuss the political aspects of the era and also had to discuss not only his standard works but such things as his accordion works (which instrument went against the politics of the time) and his "Gebrauchsmusik" or songs and piano pieces which had an educational aspect.

At the visit of Tom Cipullo to Crane, the voice faculty presented a recital of Cipullo's songs and Professor Brooks again gave a lecture with video examples and also an interview with Cipullo and one of his poets. Both lecture and interview were fascinating with Cipullo himself giving Professor Brooks praise.

This Spring semester Professor Brooks will present a lecture on Lauren Becker, Julie Miller and my faculty recital of two major works of Benjamin Britten for tenor and horn: *Canticle III* and the *Serenade*. She will explain the genesis of both works with the London Blitz of the *Canticle III* and the inevitable passage of time in the *Serenade*. I look forward to her "take" on these two masterpieces.

I must also mention that I have heard fascinating lectures of Professor Brooks on opera. I still remember most specifically her lecture on *Tosca* and on the music of the Russian Revolution.

I most heartily support Professor Brooks and look forward to working with her in the future. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Donald George', followed by a long, horizontal, sweeping flourish.

Donald George

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