

**NOTE: Corrections/comments of Made Gowda are in RED-Jan. 30,2011**

The file submitted by Dr. J. Scott McConnell, in the area of Scholarly and Professional Activities, for consideration of promotion to the rank of Professor includes complete documentation of his activities in this area for the evaluation period from Fall 2006-Fall 2010. The Chemistry Department Criteria (DC) document states that a candidate applying for promotion to the rank of Professor must secure a rating of Excellent (E) by scoring a total of 17.5-25.0 points for the various benchmark activities that falls fall under this category (DC, page 11). The DC also stipulates that the candidate applying for promotion to the rank of Professor must have multiple research articles published in national/international journals during the evaluation period (please include the exact quotation from the DC which more or less states that the faculty should have a major contribution to the articles). After a review of the documents provided by Dr. McConnell the DPC, by a majority vote, concurred that Dr. Scott McConnell has met the set standards for promotion by scoring the required number of points for the various activities as per the DC. In the following narrative the DPC lists his activities in the Scholarly/Professional activities area and validates Dr. McConnell's assertion that he has met the standards as per the DC.

**Research Articles:** During this evaluation period Dr. McConnell has published three research articles, including the one accepted, for publication after peer-review in national/international journals and one article in Ark. Agric. Exp. Sta. Res. Ser. 552. These manuscripts describe the research work conducted by Dr. McConnell, his collaborators (outside WIU) and students. The published research articles listed below cite Dr. McConnell's contribution in percentage for each article as well as the impact factor of the journal in parenthesis. His narrative states that he and his student co-authors are in the process of preparing two additional manuscripts for publication. As per the current DC, the DPC by a majority vote felt that the total number of points that can be allotted to Dr. McConnell for his efforts in the area of publications is **25 points**.

(NOTE: If you carefully read the DC, for promotion to Associate Professor and then promotion to Professor, the faculty must have at least two publications for promotion to Associate Professor .....and the faculty must have multiple research articles published in national/international journals for promotion to Professor during the evaluation period. These are to be based on the work done at WIU. His third article in J. Plant Nutr. is based on the work done in Arkansas prior to 2005-as I pointed out in the DPC meeting. If this being the case, how can we award him 100% i.e 25 out of 25 points for the research effort? If possible, please reduce it - as he will still get his promotion.

i) Articles in press/print.

1. J.S. McConnell, R.M. McConnell, X. Pan, C.J. Altfillisch, K.P. Gidda, M.S. McConnell, L.R. Morgan, Ben M. Mullins, S.M. Nicioli. T.M. Pedigo, and K. E. Rigoby, 2010. Suspending nitrogen fertilization reduces residual soil nitrates in dry land cotton. Comm, in Soil Sci. and Plant Anal. (in press, ~90%, SCI-IP = 0.715))
2. X. Pan, J.E. Redding, P.A. Wiley, L. Wen, J.S. McConnell, B. Zhang, 2010. Mutagenicity evaluation of metal oxide nanoparticles by the bacterial reverse mutation assay. Chemosphere, 79: 113-116. (~15%, SCI-IP = 3.762)

3. J.S. McConnell, P.B. Francis, C.R. Stark, and R.E. Glover, 2008. Plant responses of ultra narrow row cotton to nitrogen fertilization, J. Plant Nutr., 31: 1532-4087. (~90%, SCI-IP)
4. J. Scott McConnell, Kenny A. Kaufman, Paul B. Francis, and C. Robert Stark, 2007. Long term irrigation methods and nitrogen fertilization rates in....., In: N.A. Slaton (ed.) Wayne E. Sabbe Arkansas Soil Fertility studies 2004. Ark. Agric. Exp. Sta. Res. Ser. 552. Pages 90-100. 31: 1532-4087. (~90%)

ii) Manuscripts under preparation.

Krishna P. Gidda, J.Scott McConnell, Amanda A. Vanoskey, Amber L. Simmons, Ben M. Mullins, Joshua A. Ginglen, Karen E. Rigoby, Lauren A. Zeman, Luke Unglesbee, Matthew Freund, Meredith A. Bertels, Stephenie M. Nicioli. 2001. "Active soil acidity and reserve soil acidity.....". manuscript under preparation.

Luke Morgan, J. Scott McConnell, Amanda A. Vanoskey, Amber L. Simmons, Ben M. Mullins, Krishna P. Gidda, Joshua A. Ginglen, Karen E. Rigoby, Lauren A. Zeman, Luke Unglesbee, Matthew Freund, Meredith A. Bertels, Stephenie M. Nicioli. 2001. "Soil organic carbon in native praries.....". manuscript under preparation.

The DPC, by majority vote, finds Dr. McConnell's productivity in terms of research articles as meeting the requirement for promotion to the rank of Professor. This is based on the fact that he is the primary author of two and contributing author to one of the articles published in national/international journals while in the rank of Associate Professor. He is also the primary author of the article published in a state journal.

**Research Proposals and Secured Funding:** During this evaluation period Dr. McConnell has submitted five proposals to external funding agencies and ~~two were~~ one was (as there is no second external grant-see below; even for the only one Illinois EPA grant he does not seem to have submitted any research proposal-I don't see a copy in the documentation file, if he did) funded. He has also received intramural funding from the CAS and URC at WIU. The following list details the research grants funded and the total amount of funding secured.

**External Grants funded**

Illinois EPA grant, which is a contract/agreement between the Illinois EPA and the McDonough County Soil and Water Conservation District. Co-PI: Dr. J.S. McConnell, Amount: \$ 35,000; Period: 8-31-10 to 7-31-12. As per the DC, a ~~an~~ external grant amounting to 10 K-24 K/year is worth 8-12 points for the co-investigator per year and DPC awards ~~20 points- 9 points~~ to Dr. Scott McConnell for this activity (Why are we awarding 20 pts for 2010-11 & 2011-12 years? It should be 10 pts as the second year 2011-12 is NOT part of the present evaluation period of Fall 2006-Fall 2010). I am basing my arguments on facts & DC.

**Small Grants funded**

One research proposal submitted to the University Research Council (\$6,000), one proposal submitted to Blackburn, Inc. (\$1,000) and ~~twelve~~ undergraduate student research



awards from the College of Arts and Sciences (total \$4,500) were also funded (NOTE: I thought we in the DPC meeting decided to move CAS student awards to teaching area) during the evaluation period for a total amount of \$ 11,500.00. The DPC awards a total of 16 points for these efforts to Dr. Scott McConnell.

Dr. Scott McConnell has also been very active during this period presenting his research results at international, national and regional meetings. The DPC applauds and acknowledges these scholarly activities.

It is evident from the narrative above that Dr. Scott McConnell has an established record to support his Scholarly/Professional activities for his promotion to the rank of Professor in the Department of Chemistry at WIU and the DPC, by a majority vote, recommends that Dr. Scott McConnell be granted promotion to the rank of Professor.