

Dr. Kristin Sobolik
Provost
Academic Affairs
Campus

Dear Dr. Sobolik,

It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for Dr. Cosmopoulos as part of review process for endowed professors. Dr. Cosmopoulos has a joint appointment in anthropology and International Studies (ISP) but his research and outreach work are largely carried out under the auspices of ISP. As a result, I am very familiar with his work and his extraordinary contributions to archaeology, Greek Studies and UMSL. As other evaluators have indicated, his overall contributions serve as the best case example of the difference that a properly motivated and supported endowed professor can make to this campus, the community and his academic field.

Dr. Cosmopoulos has by any standard an extraordinary record of research and publication. Since joining our faculty in 2001 he has published many volumes about his major field work in both Eleusis and Iklaina, with additional volumes in the pipeline. The detailed review of his research by Professor Gillman and Wall clearly documents this record.

In recognition of these research accomplishments, Cosmopoulos has been elected to the Academy of Sciences in St. Louis, the European Academy of Sciences and Arts and the National Academy of Arts and Sciences of Canada. These high honors and recognition further document the high regard in which he is held in both local and international academic circles.

Cosmopoulos has used the funds in his professorship endowment to support this research but he has multiplied these UMSL funds many times with external research grants. Those agencies that have funded his work include: Institute for Aegean Prehistory, Costamare Shipping Company, National Endowment for the Humanities, Loeb Classical Library Foundation, Alexander Onassis Foundation, National Geographic Society, and the National Science Foundation. I continue to be impressed by his energy and motivation to generate the sort of funding required to support a major archaeological excavation.

In addition to these research grants Cosmopoulos has raised a significant amount of money in the local Greek community to build the Greek Studies program at UMSL. He has raised funds to establish and endow the Matsakis Culture Center, to fund the salary of a three year visiting professor to increase our offering of courses in Greek Studies, and to create five endowed lectures series in Greek Studies. Once

again I note the way in which Cosmopoulos took the lead in developing a Greek Studies program using his endowed professor position as the foundation for his efforts.

In the instructional arena I am mostly familiar with his contributions to the development of study abroad at UMSL. His annual study abroad program at Iklaina is popular with both degree seeking students and community volunteers. We always receive rave reviews from participants who enjoy the opportunity to engage in an active learning experience while gaining a better understanding of the roots of western civilization and contemporary Greek culture and society. He has also developed a partnership with the American College of Greece for those students who wish to spend an entire semester in Greece.

The endowed professor program at UMSL was established to build strong and funded ties between the University and our external constituents. The UMSL connection with the Greek-American community in St. Louis is both strong and in very good hands. Cosmopoulos, working with ISP, organizes 6-8 programs annually and they almost universally attract large and interested audiences. Cosmopoulos has fulfilled the community outreach mission of the endowed professorship program as completely and faithfully as any of the endowed professors.

Finally, Cosmopoulos has enhanced the reputation of UMSL. He is an academic star and celebrity. When PBS produced a documentary, *The Greeks*, which aired in 2016, they engaged several distinguished professors as commenters about the storyline they were presenting about the history of Greek civilization. Not surprisingly, these distinguished authorities were professors at Harvard, Yale, Cambridge, Oxford and UMSL. And, yes, they included Michael Cosmopoulos, further demonstrating the high esteem in which he is held and the luster that he adds to our campus and faculty.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments about Dr. Cosmopoulos during this evaluation.

Sincerely,



Joel Glassman
Associate Provost and Director, International
Studies and Programs

January 31, 2018

Dr. Kristin Sobolik
Provost
426 Woods Hall

Dear Dr. Sobolik:

It is my pleasure to strongly support the recommendation of the Dr. Max Gillman and Dr. Eamonn Wall to renew the appointment of Dr. Michael Cosmopoulos as the Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professor of Greek Studies at UMSL. Dr. Cosmopoulos's has clearly demonstrated his ability to *"focus, develop, and sustain research, teaching, and public education on Hellenism, with particular emphasis on the impact of Hellenic civilization on contemporary society,"* and he has done an excellent job of building relationships with communities, from the local to the national and the international level. As the reviewers note, he has been able to find synergies between his field work, his teaching, his funding, and his publications. His archaeological research is exemplary and he incorporates it into both his teaching and his service. I concur with the opinion of his reviewers who state that *"In every respect, his performance as Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professor of Greek Studies at UMSL has been outstanding and exemplary."*

In summary, this is a very strong application for renewal by Dr. Michael Cosmopoulos as the Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professor of Greek Studies at UMSL and I support it fully.

Sincerely,



Teresa Thiel, PhD
Interim Dean, Collegte of Arts and Sciences
Professor of Biology

Five Year Report on Endowed Professor: Michael Cosmopoulos Ph.D. November 2017

Peer Review

Dr. Michael Cosmopoulos serves as the Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professor of Greek Studies at UMSL. He holds an academic appointment as professor of Anthropology in the Department of Anthropology and Archaeology (College of Arts and Sciences), and in International Studies & Programs. As Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professor of Greek Studies at UMSL, Dr. Cosmopoulos's mission "is to focus, develop, and sustain research, teaching, and public education on Hellenism, with particular emphasis on the impact of Hellenic civilization on contemporary society," as is indicated on the Greek Studies' website. In addition, the professorship has been charged with building relationships with local, regional, national, and international communities.

Research:

During the past five years, Dr. Michael Cosmopoulos' performance in research, both in terms of quality and quantity, has been exemplary. One notable aspect of his career is the overlap between his field archaeological work, teaching, grant-funding, and publications. During the past five years he has served as the director of two major archaeological projects in Greece—at Eleusis and at Iklaina. For both projects, he has secured significant external funding and these projects have resulted in Dr. Cosmopoulos' publishing articles on this field work in refereed journals in both the US and Europe, as well as a two-volume collection on the Eleusis project from Cambridge University Press, one of the world's most prestigious outlets for academic scholarship. Another volume on the Iklaina project is in-press with a 2017 publication date. As is clear from Dr. Cosmopoulos' CV, he has also been active presenting scholarly papers at international conferences while also delivering papers at conferences locally and nationally. Organically, the professor's field work and publications come together; not only has Dr. Cosmopoulos found important artifacts in Greece, but he has also described and contextualized these important finds in scholarly publications. The insights gained in the field and in libraries are brought back into his UMSL classrooms and help prepare his students for the field school he directs in Pylos each summer. In addition, Dr. Cosmopoulos also serves as an editorial board member of two top-tier journals in his field (*American Journal of Archaeology* and *Mediterranean Archaeology and Archaeometry*) and in this capacity helps promote the work of other scholars while offering encouragement and support to up-and-coming researcher/scholars in the Greek Studies' field. Dr. Cosmopoulos is an internationally renowned figure and leader in his profession, an observation that he is too modest to make in his self-study.

Selected Key Publications: Books and Journal articles

M.C, 2015 *Bronze Age Eleusis and the Origins of the Eleusinian Mysteries*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

M.C, 2014 *The Sanctuary of Demeter at Eleusis. The Bronze Age. Vols. I-II*. Library of the Athens Archaeological Society 295-296, Athens.

Both reviewed jointly in Review: "New Insights into Bronze Age Eleusis and the Formative Stages of the Eleusinian Cults, by Kevin T. Glowacki, *American Journal of Archaeology*, Vol. 120, No. 4 (October 2016), pp. 673-677. One quote from Review:

"Cosmopoulos completes the study of material from the old excavations; presents and assesses the

stratigraphy, architecture, and ceramics of the Bronze Age settlement in terms of contemporary Aegean archaeological method and theory; and offers a synthesis of the most important archaeological developments at the site since the mid-20th century. His careful and critical approach, combined with a clear respect for both the archaeological record of Eleusis and its earliest excavators, allows him to offer meaningful new insights into the history of prehistoric Attica, Mycenaean religion, and the formative stages of the Eleusinian sanctuary.

M.C. 2014 "Mycenaean Burnt Animal Sacrifice at Eleusis". *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* 33, pp. 257–273 (with D. Ruscillo).

M.C. 2014 "Cult, Continuity, and Social Memory", *American Journal of Archaeology*, Vol. 118, No. 3 (July 2014), pp. 401-427

Community Outreach in the St. Louis Area & Beyond:

As demonstrated in the self-study and supported by testimonials from community leaders, Dr. Cosmopoulos has engaged in productive community outreach. He organizes five lectures and a major concert each year on campus as well as participating in events, services, and meetings sponsored by such Greek organizations as the Hellenic Society and Hellenic Spirit Foundation in the St. Louis and Eastern Illinois areas. Often, the Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professorship co-sponsors events with such groups and serves as an anchor for activities in the Bi-State region. Frequently, Dr. Cosmopoulos makes himself available to give lectures to community groups and these serve the purpose of connecting UMSL with our local region. Two further aspects of community outreach are notable: the *Greek Oral History Project* and the *Greek Artifacts and Documents Collection*. The former comprises 50 interviews with elderly members of the local Greek community and this is an invaluable way to preserve both the culture of the Greek community and the voices of individuals. For the latter, Dr. Cosmopoulos has collected the Greek community donated heirlooms, photographs, books, etc. and deposited them with the university for display and safe keeping. These items comprise part of the impressive collection housed in the Greek Culture Center at UMSL, a space that Dr. Cosmopoulos curates and develops for both the university and local Greek community.

Through his role as director of two archaeological projects in Greece as well as the summer program he directs in Pylos for students, Dr. Cosmopoulos connects UMSL to the wider Hellenic world. Not only does he travel to Greece to conduct field work and research but he also provides opportunities, and scholarships, for UMSL students to take part in an UMSL field school in Greece each summer where they work alongside Dr. Cosmopoulos and other experts. As is noted in his self-study, Dr. Cosmopoulos teaches two three-credit courses as an overload each summer at Pylos—a clear measure of his dedication to his students. In addition to offering our students opportunities to study in Greece, Dr. Cosmopoulos brings the best of Greek scholarship to UMSL to deliver presentations, participate in conferences and seminars, and to perform on stage.

Quotes from Letters of Recommendation

1. Timothy Moore: "Michael's creativity and industry contributed significantly to the vitality of Hellenic Studies in the St. Louis community..."
2. Scott Thompson: "I can un-categorically state that Dr. Cosmopoulos has been a key partner in preserving the history and culture of the Greeks..."
3. George Pelican: "The entire Greek Community considers him an invaluable asset and I personally feel UMSL is fortunate to have such an individual."

Teaching:

Dr. Cosmopoulos teaches three courses during each academic year on campus, in addition to summer teaching duties in Greece. As he points out in his self-study his courses are underlined by a deep faith the humanities, by an interdisciplinary approach, and in a belief that students can learn much from the study of the Hellenic world that will prepare them for our own complex contemporary world. As is the case with regard to his scholarship, one can observe connections between Dr. Cosmopoulos' teaching and his ability to attract external funding. He has been able to raise considerable funds within the Greek community in St. Louis that have been used to hire an Assistant Teaching Professor who has been able to lead the Greek oral history project as well as teach the Greek language to UMSL students..

Grants and Extended Funding:

As indicated in the self-study, Dr. Cosmopoulos has attracted over \$600,000 in research-related funding to UMSL during the past five-year period with these funds earmarked for the Eleusis and Iklaina projects in Greece. Over the years, he has attracted major funding for the creation, operation, and staffing of the Karakas Library and the Matsakis Greek Culture Center. The Greek program has been able to find funding four annual endowed lectures and an endowed concert while Michael Cosmopoulos has served as Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professor of Greek Studies at UMSL.

Conclusion:

Dr. Cosmopoulos has achieved success in promoting Greek studies and culture on campus at UMSL and in providing outreach to the St. Louis Greek community and beyond would. It is easy to underestimate the magnitude of his achievement during the past five years. In every respect, his performance as Hellenic Government-Karakas Family Foundation Professor of Greek Studies at UMSL has been outstanding and exemplary.

1. His endowment goals have been met through his distinction in outreach, teaching and research.
2. His plan for the next five years involves new academic programs such as a major in Greek Studies, more events brought to UMSL such as the Trial of Socrates, and research related to continued excavation at Iklaina. This is consistent with his mission.
3. Recommendations and suggestions
 - a. about future directions: His goals for establishing the Greek studies major are admirable. There is currently The Greek Studies Certificate. Perhaps a minor in Greek studies would be the next step for adding to the Certificate.
 - b. For review process: Review process seems fine.

Respectfully Submitted,
Max Gillman Ph.D.
Eamonn Wall Ph.D.



ASSUMPTION GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

1755 Des Peres Road, Town & Country, Missouri 63131-1405 Tel: (314) 966-2255

Web: www.assumptiongoc.org

November 7, 2017

Dr. Paulette Isaac-Savage
Associate Provost for Planning and Assessment
University of Missouri-St. Louis
E-mail: EPisaac@umsl.edu

Dear Dr. Paulette Isaac-Savage;

Greetings from the St. Louis Assumption Greek Orthodox Church! I am writing with regards to Dr. Michael Cosmopoulos, Professor of Greek History and Archeology, and holder of the endowed Greek Professorship at UMSL. I am the Parish Council President of the Assumption Greek Orthodox Church, as well as past president and current member of the board of governors of the St. Louis Chapter of AHEPA (a men's philanthropic organization – feel free to read about us at Ahepa.org).

I've known Dr. Cosmopoulos for about six or seven years at this point, and during this time he's been an unfailing source of events and speakers to further the cultural heritage of our Hellenic community and philhellenes. He's partnered with us to set up individual events geared to specific needs, as well as helped coordinate instructor/speakers for ongoing historical talks aimed at furthering the community's overall understanding of Greek History, Archaeology and the salient events of the various epochs leading up to today.

He has himself volunteered as a speaker on several occasions, sharing his own work with the community, the church and the Hellenic Society, or simply to inspire the young men and women graduating from High School and receiving Scholarships from AHEPA each May. He has also worked with us to ensure a broad dissemination of the various events put on by the University; cultural, historical, and musical. I routinely forward notification of events to the AHEPA membership, around 160 individuals; and these notices are also picked up and distributed by the local Greek Orthodox Churches. I can say from personal experience that these events are packed with our various members!

We've also partnered with him in contacting our Senators and Congressmen to retain budgetary funding for the Arts and Humanities. So I can unconditionally state that Dr. Cosmopoulos has been a key partner in preserving the history and culture of the Greeks, reminding us of the importance of our heritage, and helping us to understand how key historical events have connected to have wider geopolitical consequences.

With best regards,

Scott A Thompson
Assumption Parish Council President
AHEPA Chapter 53, Board of Governors

Dr. Paulette-Savage
Associate Provost for Planning and Assessment
University of Missouri-St.Louis

Dear Dr. Savage,

I am the President of The Hellenic Society of Greater St. Louis. The mission of this organization is to perpetuate Greek cultural heritage in St. Louis. I am writing to you regarding Professor Micheal Cosmopoulos and his relationship and efforts for the Greek American community of St. Louis.

From his earliest days at UMSL he quickly grasped the concept of community outreach. He has executed this flawlessly and with enthusiasm. Among his accomplishments he has Organized and guided an oral history project of the Greek American community which is housed at the university. He has organized a documentary historical record of the community. This record dating to the early 1900's is also housed at the Matsakis Center of UMSL. He is also an excellent researcher. This is attested by his archeological excavations at Pylos in Greece. Many St. Louisans have traveled to this excavation and return enthused.

The entire Greek Community considers him an invaluable asset and i personally feel UMSL is fortunate to have such an individual

Yours truly,


George Pelican MD

Department of Classics

Dr. Paulette Isaac-Savage
Associate Provost for Planning and Assessment
University of Missouri-St. Louis

November 3, 2017

Dear Dr. Isaac-Savage,

Michael Cosmopoulos has asked that I write to you describing some of the outreach we worked on together during my time as chair of the Washington University Department of Classics (July 1, 2012-June 30, 2017). I am happy to do so, as Michael's creativity and industry contributed significantly to the vitality of Hellenic Studies in the St. Louis community during that time.

Michael and I worked together on a number of events, most importantly the revival of the annual lecture in Classical Art and Archaeology in memory of George Mylonas, a renowned archaeologist who spent most of his career at Washington University. The Mylonas Lecture had long been sponsored by the St. Louis chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America. When the chapter decided some years ago to discontinue the lecture, Michael led the effort by UMSL, my department, the Washington University Department of Art History and Archaeology, the Saint Louis Museum of Art, and the Classical Club of St. Louis to revive it, and we have together now sponsored three highly successful and well attended lectures.

In addition to this annual event, Michael and I worked together on a number of individual occasions. Our two departments together brought Thomas Palaima, a leading expert on Bronze Age Greece, to campus for a pair of events last year; we worked together each semester to let UMSL students know about WashU courses in ancient Greek that might supplement offerings at UMSL; Michael offered some valuable guest-teaching opportunities to our graduate students; and Michael has helped entertain important visiting scholars who have come to Washington University. In addition, Michael makes a point of attending events sponsored by local secondary teachers of Classics. He has been a wonderful neighbor.

Please feel free to contact me at tmoores26@wustl.edu or 314-721-2998 if any additional information would be useful to you.

Sincerely,



Timothy J. Moore
John and Penelope Biggs Distinguished Professor of Classics in Arts and Sciences