



## Department of Educational Studies

October 6, 2020

To the Promotion Committee,

It is my sincere pleasure to write this letter of support for Dragan Gill's tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. I have known Dragan in a few different settings but the space I would like to talk about is my understanding of her professional accomplishments during my time as the Coordinator of the Innovation Lab. (the partnership between Central Falls School District and Rhode Island College.)

For four years I directed this large partnership that, at its high point, had over thirty individual projects. During that time Dragan built a virtual asset map of both the Central Falls and the RIC communities. The amount of work to create this map was exponential. The product was impressive and has now become the subject of both presentations at national conferences and a published article.

While the project itself was remarkable, what I would like to highlight here is the incredible leadership, collaboration and dedication I witnessed in Dragan during this project. She was asked to look into this project and quickly made it something more than I had ever envisioned. She learned new technology, and partnered with both Learning for Life and the graduate assistant for the Innovation Lab. This collaboration included her investigating the entire campus to understand the complexity of all of the programing at RIC. She facilitated countless working meetings, kept the project on track and in many ways mentored all involved. This project was exceptional and I do believe it was all because of Dragan. She was not afraid to ask questions, conduct countless hours of inquiry and give her all to the map.

Dragan is a professional and always ready to support the community with her vast knowledge and willingness to explore. She is an asset to the RIC community and we are all better to have her on our faculty. I do believe she is deserving of promotion and tenure and I hope the committee asgrees. If you have any further questions or concerns, please call me at 401-456-9013 or email me at [jhorwitz@ric.edu](mailto:jhorwitz@ric.edu).

Sincerely,

*Julie R Horwitz, Ph.D.*

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