



Library, One Old Ferry Road, Bristol, Rhode Island 02809-2921
401.254.3031 • 401.254.3631 Fax • www.rwu.edu

September 14, 2020

Dear Review Committee Members,

It is my pleasure to write in strong support of Ms. Dragan Gill's application for tenure and promotion from assistant professor to associate professor at Rhode Island College (RIC). I have known and worked closely with Dragan since 2016, which is when we met serving together on Governor Raimondo's Steering Committee for the Open Textbook Initiative (OTI). Dragan has proved to me time and time again that she is a thoughtful, strong, and personable leader, prompting me to jump at any opportunity to work with her in any professional capacity.

Dragan and I work the closest as co-Chairs for the OTI. In this role, I have had the pleasure of spending a significant amount of time with her coordinating, drafting, and facilitating our meetings, analyzing our committee's output and identifying better processes for data collection and team building, and ensuring that we stay on task with the Governor's 5 year challenge to save Rhode Island students \$5m in textbook costs. Dragan and I have also presented at multiple conferences together and traveled to Thomas College to facilitate a day-long workshop for faculty in support of their Davis Foundation OER initiative. After seeing just how strong of an advocate and devoted educator Dragan is, I invited her to serve on the New England Board of Higher Education's (NEBHE) Open Education Regional Advisory Committee in my capacity as NEBHE's Fellow for Open Education. Dragan brings forth a fresh perspective to our committee and her expertise as a practitioner has helped advance the organization's regional initiatives in this area.

Dragan's professional commitment and her support of her colleagues across Rhode Island and beyond has gained her tremendous respect in the Open Education Community, and her leadership presence is such that I know she will continue to do important work at RIC as the system of higher education continues to adapt to make postsecondary education more affordable and attainable for all students.

Based on everything that I know about her, I recommend without reservation the granting of tenure and promotion to the rank of associate professor for Ms. Dragan Gill. It is my sincere belief that she is an ideal candidate for this distinction. Her contributions to student learning and success, service to Rhode Island College, and leadership in academic librarianship, particularly Open Education, locally, regionally, and nationally far exceed most colleagues I know and serve with. Dragan is, and will continue to be, an invaluable contributing member of the library faculty and University Community. If I can be of further assistance in this matter, please contact me at lgumb@rwu.edu or at 401-254-3225.



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Sincerely,

Lindsey Gumb

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Scholarly Communications Librarian, Assistant Professor
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