I am happy to support Dragan Gill for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor. Certainly, Dragan has the requisite qualifications for promotion and tenure, as her MLIS from the University of Pittsburgh, her active involvement in professional development as well as her professional contributions through her scholarship including her numerous presentations and exhibitions both here on campus and throughout the region. Her involvement in professional organizations not only speaks to her own growth as a librarian, but also makes her a valuable asset to the faculty as well as enhancing the reputation of Adams Library throughout the region.

Beyond those expected and traditional qualification for advancement in higher education, I believe Dragan possesses abilities and qualities that serve the library and Rhode Island College well. Over the last few years, when students have seen me in and out of the Special Collections area and have talked to me about it, several have pointed out that Dragan's office is down the hall. They then have told me how helpful she has been to them. One student told me she had had "bad" experience in her town library and was really nervous when, as a freshman, she had need to spend time in our library. The first person she encountered was Dragan who was so helpful, positive, and upbeat that she changed her opinion. The ability to engage and energize our students is a tremendous asset.

Dragan is currently serving as president of the Friends of Adams Library. These difficult times create unique challenges for anyone in this position. I have been both impressed and heartened by her vision and leadership. She has reach out to library leaders throughout the state for ideas and advice. She has forged an alliance for the Friends to support the Library Outreach Committee; she has revitalized our connect with the RIC Foundation; and she has contacted Sharon Lux of COLA about the Friends connect with other Friends group throughout the state. In a time with the budgetary problems we face, Dragan seeks new ways to help the Friends be supportive of the College.

I strongly believe that Dragan is an asset to Rhode Island College and to Adams Library who is deserving of tenure and promotion to the rank of Associate Professor.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jean E. Brown

Professor Emerita English Department Rhode Island College