


## **DEPARTMENT OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION**

To: Laurie Ramirez  
From: Michael Jacobson   
Subject: Annual Report 2010-2011  
Date: June 30, 2011

My review of your annual report as discussed at length with me on June 30, 2011 indicates a strong performance in most areas of the traditional triad: teaching, research, and service. Your primary teaching responsibilities are to the middle grades program area. Student evaluations and peer reviews indicate an excellent performance. Students view you as knowledgeable, clear in your explanation of course requirements, expert in your ability to create an atmosphere of inquiry in the college classroom in which students feel free to express their feelings, and that you genuinely care about student performance and about students as human beings. Similarly, you perform responsibilities as advisor and mentor to students in excellent fashion.

Your scholarly activities include a refereed publication recently accepted for publication in the *North Carolina Middle School Association Journal*. You have manuscripts that have been submitted for publication or are in the preparation stage. Similarly, you have established linkages with faculty development and with colleagues that will further nurture your professional writing. You have made several presentations at international conferences; for example, at AERA in New Orleans, at the S-STEP conference in the United Kingdom and a third at the Canadian Society for the Study of Teacher Education Conference in Montreal. Laurie, while I applaud your efforts in the research area and would note that you are an individual with immense professional writing potential, there is a need to establish a more prolific record of publication during these next years of your contract; that is, journal articles under review must bear fruit and there is a need to develop additional manuscripts to be submitted for publication to refereed journals.

Your record of service to all levels of the university and to the profession has been excellent. For example, you have served on the Middle Grades Professional Advisory Council; you serve as faculty advisor to the Collegiate Middle Level Association and serve the college as a member of the Diversity Committee. You are a member of the Multicultural Center Advisory Board and have participated in the summer reading program. You are a member of the middle level team that was recognized as the *Outstanding Middle Level Teacher Education Program* by the National Professors of Middle Level Education. I would like to make particular mention of your participation as a faculty mentor during the International Alternative Spring Break to the Dominican Republic. I know that the service contributed to the Sister Island Project provided a life-changing experience for both you and participating students.

It has been a pleasure to work with you during my tenure as department chair. I feel privileged to have you as a colleague and friend. I look forward to working with you in the coming academic year in our new home.