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April 25, 2012
Dr. Michael Jacobson
Dept. of Curriculum and Instruction
Appalachian State University
Boone, NC 28608

Dear Dr. Jacobson:

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. Laurie Ramirez as she makes her way through the promotion and tenure process here at ASU. I know that Dr. Ramirez is preparing for her third year review, and I wanted to express my support for her in this review and in her future steps towards promotion and tenure. I have had several of Dr. Ramirez's students in my courses, and they all speak very highly of her efforts to help them grow as pre-service teachers. In addition to the comments I have heard from students about her dedication, I have also regularly seen the fruit of Dr. Ramirez's efforts around the College of Education. For example, just last week Dr. Ramirez and the CMLA students put on a book fair to help the teacher candidates in the College of Education build their classroom libraries. Not only did she coordinate this book fair, but she managed to arrange for the fair to work on a buy one get one free basis, so the students could maximize their ability to provide high-interest texts for their future students using their limited financial resources. Even at this busy time in the semester, Dr. Ramirez was willing to put in a week of 10 plus hour days in order to help her students build their teaching resources. As you know this was also the week of the Open House, which Dr. Ramirez attended along with several of her students who are so excited about their program that they were also willing to come into campus on a Saturday to sing the praises of the Middle Grades program.

In addition to her hard work as a teacher, Dr. Ramirez excels as a scholar and a scholarly colleague. As a junior professor, I appreciate her efforts to help me develop my research agenda. This semester I was working on an article related to my teaching and I needed some help as I was working to engage in a self-study of my teaching. Dr. Ramirez publishes in Self-Study journals and presents regularly at conferences devoted to the field of self-study. She is emerging as a leader in the field of Self-Study. Her advice was pivotal in my efforts to bring my article to fruition. Her knowledge of the field of Self-Study—and her willingness to share that knowledge with me—made it possible for me effectively engage in this Self-Study of my practice resulting in the acceptance of my article in the *International Journal of Dialogical Science*. In my view, Dr. Ramirez's efforts to assist my scholarly endeavors are the embodiment of what a university professor should be. Her willingness to scaffold my learning about her preferred discipline speaks volumes to her value to the Curriculum & Instruction department and to the College of Education. I wholeheartedly endorse Dr. Ramirez in her efforts to move towards promotion and tenure.

Sincerely,

Trevor Thomas Stewart, Ph.D.