

To: Continuing Contract Review Committee

From: Rudy Jean-Bart
Acting Dean, Online Campus and E-Learning

Re: **Letter in Support of Professor Ricardo Vargas Receiving a Continuing Contract**

Date: October 5, 2026

Dear Esteemed Committee Members,

I write to you in hopes that you will be in support of Professor Ricardo Vargas receiving a continuing contract. Mr. Vargas has been an exemplary professor for our online modality. He comes to Cypress weekly to conduct office hours. In these moments I have seen his dedication to our students. Mr. Vargas is communicative with his students and has a visible desire to see them succeed. He is brilliant, helpful, kind, and engaged. Teaching online can present its challenges. It requires someone who is dedicated to Regular and Substantive Interaction (RSI). Based on my conversations with Professor Vargas, I know he has a firm grasp of RSI. He is responsive to students, and he familiarizes himself with the needs of each student he encounters.

Mr. Vargas' dedication to our institution goes beyond the virtual classroom. He is a consistent member of our Online Grade Appeal Committee. As chair of this committee, I have been able to see firsthand Mr. Vargas' engagement and keen insight at our grade appeal hearings. He has been a vital member when having encountered grade appeals related to improper AI use. Professor Vargas consistently reminds us to review the authorship properties of the documents in question and often provides technical expertise in times when a deeper understanding of technology is needed to provide richer context to a particular grade appeal hearing. Having participated in over 20 grade appeal hearings with Professor Vargas, I can attest that he is a key member of our committee.

Having served as a faculty developer and faculty reviewer for online and blended courses, Mr. Vargas has proven to be a key contributor to his academic department. Being that online courses do not facilitate in-person interaction, the development of online courses is of the utmost importance. Broward College adheres to the Quality Matters Rubric when developing e-learning courses. Mr. Vargas has familiarized himself with Broward College standards and works diligently to ensure that the course developments he is a part of are of quality. These developments warrant someone with the proper knowledge and spirit of collaboration. Professor Vargas exhibits these characteristics and has shown himself to be a wonderful course developer participant.

I again want to reiterate my support for Mr. Vargas. I personally love having him as a BC Online faculty member. His engagement with students, participation in committees, prowess in course developments, and other factors, make him deserving of a continuing contract.

Should the Continuing Contract Review Committee have any questions for me regarding Professor Vargas, please do not hesitate to email me at rjeanbar@broward.edu or contact me via phone at (954) 201-4594.

Sincerely,



Rudy Jean-Bart
Acting Dean, Online