



FRIENDS UNIVERSITY

Dr. Mary Jones, Provost
Committee on the Professoriate
MidAmerica Nazarene University
2030 East College Way
Olathe, KS 66062

August 2, 2018

Dear Committee Members:

Please accept this letter as unconditional recommendation for Dr. Jill Gonzalez-Bravo, School of Education Department Chair, to be considered for rank advancement from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor during this academic year. Dr. Gonzalez-Bravo exhibits top level professional behaviors and she has proven herself an excellent model for other educators.

Jill Gonzalez-Bravo shows a real commitment to lifelong learning as well as scholarly teaching. She has an intellectual curiosity that is the hallmark of an excellent researcher and instructor. She has made several important contributions to our profession through practical, relevant research, shared innovative classroom practice, and powerful, effective presentation strategies both in and out of the classroom. One example that exemplifies her skill regarding research, innovation, and presentation is her recent state-wide presentation on the effectiveness of the SAMR model of technology integration for teachers of all levels, including teachers in training.

Jill clearly demonstrated the value of moving beyond Substitution, Augmentation, or Modification of current classroom pedagogy, clearly presenting the case for integrating instructional technology as Redefinition of current practice (SAMR). This approach obviously increases student interest and allows for innovative practices that promote student creativity, critical thinking, collaboration, and communication. Through her sharing of this one presentation to state-wide colleagues, many now think of technology integration beyond the “substitution” or “augmentation” levels and have begun to reframe instructional technology as a path to clear meaningful improvement of teaching, student learning, and assessment.

This relevant research coupled with powerful effective presentation skill is but one indication of the skill and talent of this individual. It is without hesitation that I recommend Dr. Gonzalez-Bravo for this well-deserved rank advancement. You would need to go far to find a more qualified candidate.

With highest regards,

Richard L Gibson, Ph.D.
Professor Emeritus