LETTERS OF SUPPORT

Letters of support from former advisors, collaborators, friends, and colleagues may be included in this section. The methods and conditions under which the letters of support were received shall be noted. In the past, the Campus Promotion and Tenure Committee has expressed concerns about the inadequacy of some external letters. In many cases, the quality of external reviewers and their impartiality have been strongly questioned. A letter from a potentially partial reviewer should be included here as a letter of support, rather than as an evaluation from an unbiased external referee. Letters intended to truly be external references should be solicited by the department chair.

A page should be included in this section indicating the conditions under which letters of support were received, i.e., whether they were solicited by an independent third party, solicited by the candidate, or received unsolicited. A comment on the tradition of the department or the unit in this regard is appropriate. All letters of support must indicate the title of the letter writer or the relationship of the letter writer to the candidate, i.e., colleague, faculty member, administrator, student, former student, etc.