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Michael Rodriguez, Chair, Humanities Department
LaGuardia Community College / CUNY
31-10 Thomson Avenue
Long Island City, NY 11101

Dear Professor Rodriguez (and any others whom this may concern):

Writing in support of James Richardson's bid for promotion and tenure, I should say straight off that I recommend him highly. Since 2008, I have been working with faculty throughout CUNY on issues around academic uses of technology. As you may know, James Richardson has been, for all that time, the sole representative from LaGuardia to the CUNY Committee on Academic Technology (CAT). In a select group from CUNY's 23 campuses, selected precisely for their leadership and positions in the vanguard, James still manages to stand out for as a forward-thinking leader among leaders.

His contributions have been nothing if not multifaceted, including his superb knowledge of eportfolios, his work with new media and emerging technologies as a media educator, and his attention to shifting standards for evaluation within the academy. It is that last, particularly as presented at the CUNY IT Conference and articulated in an article for the *Journal for Interactive Technology and Pedagogy (JITP)*, one I was able to review in manuscript, that has defined his leadership on CAT's newest committee, one devoted to standards for evaluation in the age of digital pedagogy and scholarship.

I think it fair to assume that leadership is what, above all else, marks someone as worthy of promotion and tenure, both in terms of actively leading other faculty and in serving as a beacon to others, an exemplar of what other faculty should aspire to. A fascinating aspect of digital work is the extent to which it makes this possible by making exemplary work visible, share-able. Professor Richardson's work deserves that kind of attention, just as he deserves the rank that will help to direct it to him. As I said at the outset, I recommend him highly.

Sincerely,

George Otte
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