

April 3, 2022

Dr. Francis Degnin, Chair Faculty Senate
University of Northern Iowa

Dear Dr. Degnin and Senators,

I am honored to write this letter of support for Dr. Deborah Gallagher in her application for Emeritus status at the University of Northern Iowa.

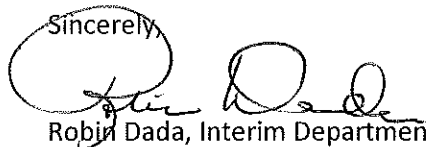
Dr. Gallagher served as an assistant professor, associate professor, and professor at the University of Northern Iowa for the past 31 years after teaching for 10 years in secondary English and special education in secondary and elementary school prior to coming to UNI. Her commitment to education is further demonstrated through her recognition in 2020 with the James F. Lubker Faculty Research Award, her receipt of the Senior Scholar Award from the Disability Studies in Education Special Interest Group of the American Educational Research Association, her recognition through the award of the UNI Diversity Matters Award in 2015, her receipt of the John B. and Florence S. May Fellowship in Learning Disabilities from the Curry School of Education, the University of Virginia in 1989-1991, and receipt of the UNI College of Education Outstanding Faculty Award for Scholarship for the 2005-2006 academic year.

Dr. Gallagher has served as the principal/co-investigator for approximately three grants that yielded approximately \$1.5 million to prepare inclusive educators. She has published three co-authored books, 25 peer-reviewed book chapters, and 16 peer-reviewed articles. Dr. Gallagher serves as an international advisory board member for *Educational Review* and *the British Educational Research Journal*, associate editor of *Remedial and Special Education*, and is co-editor of two double special issues for the *Learning Disabilities Quarterly* and the *International Journal of Inclusive Education*. She is a frequent presenter at international, national, state, and local conferences over her years at the University of Northern Iowa.

Dr. Gallaher is active in service to national professional organizations, such as AERA, and national educational journals that feature work by scholars in special education. She is a member of the Iowa Academy of Education and a frequent consultate for the Iowa Department of Education and served as President of the Learning Disabilities Association of Black Hawk County early in her career. As a focus group leader for the Teacher Education Strategic Initiative (TESI), and other leadership roles at UNI, she has had a role in shaping the Educator Preparation Program over the course of her years of service to UNI. Dr. Gallagher has provided leadership on numerous search committees for the College of Education, served on the COE Education Senate, promotion and tenure committees, and provided leadership for the Ed.D. program.

In retirement, Dr. Gallagher continues to support the Department of Special Education in curriculum matters and continued efforts to update a course on diverse learners that provides a foundation for preservice elementary and secondary teachers preparing to work in today's diverse schools. It is my pleasure, and that of the entire department, to recommend the recognition of Dr. Deborah Gallagher as a Faculty Emerita.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robin Dada". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "R".

Robin Dada, Interim Department Head
Department of Special Education