



FM-1433-12-2014  
11 de diciembre de 2014

**Letter of Recommendation on behalf of Dr. Andrea Monge Navarro to be admitted to the Ph.D. Program in Health Policy at Harvard University**

Dr. Luis Bernardo Villalobos Solano  
Decano  
Facultad de Medicina  
Ciudad Universitaria "Rodrigo Facio"  
San Pedro de Montes de Oca  
San José, Costa Rica

Escuela de Enfermería  
Directora  
M. Sc. Ligia Murillo Castro

Escuela de Medicina  
Director  
Dr. Ricardo Boza Cordero

Escuela de Nutrición  
Directora  
M. Sc. Emilce Ulate Castro

Escuela de Salud Pública  
Directora  
Dra. Ileana Vargas Umaña

Escuela de Tecnologías en Salud  
Directora  
M Sc. Xinia Alvarado Zeledón

I've known Dr. Andrea Monge Navarro since her final academic period as a student of the Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery program at the School of Medicine in the University of Costa Rica (UCR), in which she consulted me in my capacity as Program Coordinator for Health Policy Research at the School of public Health at UCR, about her interest in pursuing a graduate degree in public health in addition to her clinical training.

Andrea's enthusiasm and understanding in terms of problem management at that time, considering her experience during her internship year and the leadership she demonstrated in having succeeded in establishing the Costa Rican Association of Medical Students (ACEM) as part of the International Federation of Medical Students Associations (IFMSA), and the inception of the campaign for the anti-tobacco law, which made way for other fellow students' continuing this work later on, were all facts that brought me to advise the possibility of joining the field of Public Health at UCR.

With great pleasure, after some time, I found her as a student in the course of Health Policy as part of the Master in Public Health program, while she was studying also a medical specialization in Otolaryngology. Andrea distinguished herself from the start as an excellent student, very dedicated academically and demonstrated that with the training received through the program, she acquired the expertise and knowledge to tackle issues of public health policies with an intelligent, innovative and relevant approach.

These academic qualities led her to be the best student of the program and to graduate with the best average of the Master program. Indeed, in my twenty years as a professor and founder and director of the Master of Public Health of the UCR, I have had the opportunity to teach hundreds of students and evaluate hundreds of applicants to the program, where Andrea was distinguished being one of the most outstanding students who I have seen, in my capacity as Dean of the Faculty of Medicine of the UCR.

As a physician, who has dedicated his professional life for over 30 years in the administration of public health and health policy, I can recognize Andrea's characteristics of motivation, persistence, intelligence and academic excellence, which make her a perfect candidate for a doctoral program of the quality and difficulty as yours has. Her academic potential and critical thinking, as well as her ability to address complex problems, applying or developing analytical methodologies that may lead to relevant solutions, was demonstrated in her work on Wait Lists and how she designed the research proposal in health litigation leading to her dissertation thesis, of which I was advisor, and recently in her collaboration on a project of international efforts that I lead to enhance the vision



UNIVERSIDAD DE  
COSTA RICA

Facultad de  
Medicina

Dr. Luis Bernardo Villalobos Solano  
Decano  
Facultad de Medicina  
Ciudad Universitaria "Rodrigo Facio"  
San Pedro de Montes de Oca  
San José, Costa Rica

Escuela de Enfermería  
Directora  
M. Sc. Ligia Murillo Castro

Escuela de Medicina  
Director  
Dr. Ricardo Boza Cordero

Escuela de Nutrición  
Directora  
M. Sc. Emilce Ulate Castro

Escuela de Salud Pública  
Directora  
Dra. Ileana Vargas Umaña

Escuela de Tecnologías en Salud  
Directora  
M Sc. Xinia Alvarado Zeledón