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To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter to express my sincere support in promoting Dr. Laura Grabowski from Associate Professor to Professor at SUNY Potsdam. Dr. Grabowski is one of the best professors I have had in my time at College. She is a hardworking, tenacious, intelligent, witty, and caring individual who is one of the main reasons I not only graduated as a Computer Science Major but also graduated from SUNY Potsdam at all.

When I came to Potsdam, I was lost and lonely. I had no sense of who I was or who I wanted to be. I didn't want to be undecided so I randomly chose Computer Science as my major. I can honestly say that was one of the best decisions I have made in my life, because not only did I find myself in the halls of Dunn, but I found a career and a community as well. This was due in a big part to Dr. Grabowski who has and continues to work so hard on behalf of her students to help them learn, to push them to be more than they thought was capable, and to help build a community worth being a part of.

I have seen many different sides to Dr. Grabowski during my time at SUNY Postdam since I have been her student, a tutor for the department, ACM (Computer Science Club) President, and now after graduating, a board member for the Computer Science Department. Through all of these different lenses, I have seen how Dr. Grabowski is constantly advocating for her students, her department, and her school.

As a student, I saw how Dr. Grabowski was continuously looking at all the classes being taught to make sure we each had a rounded and thorough education in regard to computer science. This is shown in how we are not just taught how to code, although we do learn multiple computer languages over the course of our studies, but we learn the theory behind it, how to analyze and enhance algorithms, the importance of having a good set of ethics in this field, how complex higher level languages like java were built upon things like assembly languages, how our computer operating system works, and how to work in the field. You can clearly see the care and consideration that went into creating and teaching our education, especially through our software engineering class, and our Capstone Project/Internship. While the Software Engineering class was difficult it gave us a chance to develop many professional skills through simulating what it would be like to work in the field. The capstone internship helped us build work experience and connections to those already in the field. The Capstone Project helped us develop a unique and greater skill set around an area that we are passionate about and taught us project management skills. Dr. Grabowski is always trying to better the program which you can see by her and her fellow professors creating new tracks to the Computer Science Program including general, Cybersecurity, and Data Analytics.

As a tutor, I saw how Dr. Grabowski's care for her students is unrivaled, which is shown through her tenacity in teaching her students. She offers countless opportunities to help us learn; offering her own time during and after office hours if need be to help us work through the logic of our coursework, taking time during class if there is anything we are struggling with, and

even getting tutors in the computer lab to help fellow students. Having tutors is a tremendous opportunity, not only for the students who need help and are now given the extra time to work out their problems with a peer but for the upperclassmen who are given a chance to help pass along their knowledge and support a peer that was in a similar position as they once were in. By having tutors, it also promotes students with varying experience to interact with each other creating a further sense of community. Dr. Grabowski was always open to ways of improving tutoring which was demonstrated when I went to her with an idea to promote higher attendance at tutoring by allowing the new students to get to know the tutors through us attending some beginning lab sessions that we ended up trying.

As ACM President, I saw how Dr. Grabowski's desire to help her students didn't end when class time was over. When there was an issue with funding for our ACM Memberships with the professional organization due to new rules with SGA, Dr. Grabowski helped us to get a donation from a board member to cover our dues for a year. When ACM wanted increased contact with the board, she helped foster new connections by putting on events like resume workshops, Q&As, and networking dinners. Dr. Grabowski helped us pursue any endeavor that the club wanted by giving us her time, ideas, and any other support she could.

As a Board Member of the Computer Science Department, I see her love for the department and the university. It is quite evident that the department and University are not only a place where Dr. Grabowski works but it is her family as well. I see this in the ways she advocates for both on a daily basis and how she continues to care for her students long after they have graduated. Through the board, she raises money for scholarships, garners networking opportunities, potential internships, and jobs for her students. Through the board, she brings attention to the Computer Science program and SUNY Potsdam by having board members reach out to potential students and attend events for the school.

This letter is a culmination of my love and respect towards Dr. Grabowski. For without her, I would not be the outstanding person I am today. I would not have graduated summa cum laude from SUNY Potsdam with a Computer Science degree, and have a job at Lockheed Martin. In my mind, I have no doubt that Dr. Grabowski deserves to be promoted to Professor, and I believe you would be remiss to pass up the opportunity to promote one of the best teachers I have ever had the privilege of having.

Sincerely,
Hannah Pinard