Sample Letter for Promotion

Dear Professor __________:

The Department in __________ at Santa Cruz has under consideration the advancement of Professor __________ to __________.

Advancement in the University of California is based upon research, teaching, and University and public service. The review committee is primarily interested in your evaluation of __________’s scholarly (or) creative contributions with particular reference to their originality and significance. In addition, I would appreciate your comments on [his] (or) [her] teaching ability, [his] (or) [her] standing within [his] (or) [her] discipline, and any other aspect of [his] (or) [her] professional competence with which you may be familiar. It would be helpful if you would compare [him] (or) [her] with others in the field.

For your convenience, I am enclosing a copy of __________’s bibliography and latest publications.

Under University of California policy, the identity of authors of letters of evaluation which are included in the personnel review files will be held in confidence. A candidate will at certain prescribed stages of the academic personnel review process, be provided access to such letters in redacted form. Redaction is defined as the removal of identifying information (including name, title, institutional affiliation, and relationship to the candidate) contained either at the top of the letterhead or within and below the signature block of the letter of evaluation.

The full text of the body of your letter will therefore be provided to the candidate. Thus, if you provide any information that tends to identify you in the body of the letter, that information will become available to the candidate. If you wish, you may provide a brief factual statement regarding your relationship to the candidate at the end of your letter, but below the signature block. This brief statement will not be made available to the candidate.

Although we cannot guarantee that at some future time a court or governmental agency will not require the disclosure of the source of confidential evaluations in University of California personnel files, we can assure you that the University will endeavor to protect the identity of authors of letters of evaluation to the fullest extent allowable under the law.

I would very much appreciate receiving your evaluation at your earliest convenience. I thank you in advance for your aid in this matter.

Sincerely,

* Bolded paragraphs must be included in all solicitation letters.