

MARCH 4, 2024

To the HETS Leadership Academy,

It is an honor to submit a letter of recommendation for Ms. Denise Abarca to participate in the HETS Leadership Academy.

If you seek a person with integrity and a commitment to higher education, Denise is a wonderful example. Ms. Abarca is bright, intellectually curious, and very much involved with issues relating to higher education. She is an exemplary leader with a calming demeanor who cares deeply for students and colleagues.

I have known Denise since December 2022; she joined the Kingsborough team as the CUNY Explorers Coordinator but immediately I saw she had big potential. It was no surprise when she expressed wanting to do more in Enrollment and I was happy to take her up on her offer.

Throughout her time here I have included her in projects such as LatinX (recruiting more Hispanic students via recruitment events, presentations, open houses, admitted students' day and information sessions). Additionally, she has been instrumental in our Virtual Registration Process (VRP) to ensure students are advised and registered for classes.

Denise also recently began her Master's Program at School of Professional Studies, continues to acquire certifications on her own time and is always willing to volunteer for new projects and initiatives. She is a natural born leader with wonderful leadership qualities. She never shies away from new tasks and opportunities.

Ms. Abarca is a dependable and dedicated colleague and has been a wonderful addition to the team. She has presented exemplary skills in helping me manage multiple projects and increase our enrollment. I am confident that she would be a wonderful asset to the HETS Leadership Academy.

From my working relationship with her, I can recommend her without hesitancy. I am sure that she will continue to exercise her potential and surpass her expectations.

Denise can manage multiple tasks, organize, and motivate people, prioritize, analyze problems, and develop creative solutions. She has a progressive model of inclusion and transparency that I admire. I fully support her attending this academy.

Sincerely,

*Johana I. Rivera*

Dr. Johana I. Rivera

Vice President for Enrollment Management