

October 3, 2025

Dr. Christopher Markwood
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs
University of North Texas at Dallas

Dear Provost Markwood,

I am writing in support of Dr. Noureen Khan's request for professional development leave to continue her work in developmental mathematics. Dr. Khan has demonstrated herself to be a committed scholar and educator, and her proposal reflects an effort to connect research on pedagogy, equity, and artificial intelligence in ways that may benefit our students and faculty.

The project aims to integrate AI with equity-driven practices through the development of an Algorithmic Equity Framework. While ambitious, the proposal is aligned with our institutional priorities of innovation and student progression, and it has the potential to contribute to addressing persistent challenges in developmental mathematics, particularly for first-generation and historically underserved students.

The proposed outcomes (i.e., scholarly publications, faculty resources, and a manuscript) would provide opportunities for broader dissemination of her work and may create tools of value for our faculty and students. Dr. Khan's prior experience with external funding and her record of mentorship indicate that she is well-positioned to pursue this work.

For these reasons, I endorse Dr. Khan's request for professional development leave. I believe her project has the potential to support our shared goals for student success and faculty development at UNT Dallas.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Mario P. Casa de Calvo, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences