

**The Johns Hopkins University**  
**Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care Medicine**



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To whom it may concern

Dear Sirs/madams:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter of unconditional support for the promotion of Riccardo Pellegrino, M.D. for position of full Professor. I have known Riccardo of nearly 10 year. Over the years, our paths have crossed on many occasions during scientific meetings both in the United States and in Italy. I had the pleasure of serving on an American Thoracic Society workshop on airway smooth muscle with Riccardo held at their international meeting in San Diego in 2005. The interactions among the participants, including Riccardo, were lively and energetic. A final product of the workshop was a manuscript that both Riccardo and I were contributing authors for. Our mutual interesting in lung physiology has also allowed me to review several of Riccardo's manuscripts as an associate editor and as an invited editor for several leading scientific journals. His work is always interesting to me. He has made major contributions in the field of respiratory physiology and disease. His research is well conceived and executed. I am continually impressed by his ideas and work.

Dr. Pellegrino's experience both clinical and scholarly, is what we would expect for someone who would be put up as a Professor at our institution. Riccardo lists 68 peer-reviewed publications, 22 of which he was first author, and 9 in preparation on his CV. All of his publications are in the leading respiratory journals that focus on lung physiology and disease. This number of publications in these journals is similar to the number that would be expected for a faculty coming up for promotion to Professor here at my institution. In addition, Dr. Pellegrino lists 4 book chapters. Riccardo also has an impressive list of lectures mostly throughout Italy, but also in other European countries. This demonstrates the acknowledgement of his peers both in Italy and throughout Europe of his standing and leadership in the respiratory community.

Another important function of a top faculty is the capability to collaborate with other researchers. Here again, Riccardo demonstrates clear ability. He has and continues to collaborate with leading pulmonary faculty throughout the world.

I cannot speak to Riccardo's clinical work other than the brief but interesting discussions we have had over various issues with ventilation of patients in the intensive care. Again, even in these brief communications, his insights shine through.

To sum up, Dr. Riccardo Pellegrino is an outstanding clinical researcher. He has clearly had a very successful career to date and I would expect him to continue to be a very productive clinical researcher. His dedication and intelligence are obvious to everyone who interacts with him. I unconditionally support his promotion to the position to full Professor.

Please feel free to contact me if you need any further information or I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

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Robert H. Brown, M.D., M.P.H.  
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