



**AMERICAN  
FREE ENTERPRISE**  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

13 March 2025

Presidential Selection Committee  
Universidad de Puerto Rico  
Administración Central  
Jardín Botánico Sur  
1187 Calle Flamboyán  
San Juan, PR 00926-1117

Re: Nomination of Dr. Zayira Jordan

Dear Members of the Presidential Selection Committee:

It is my honor to write this letter in support of Dr. Zayira Jordan to be selected as President of the University of Puerto Rico. I have known Dr. Jordan for almost ten years and know first-hand of her passion for the people of Puerto Rico, her care for students who pursue higher education, and her positive entrepreneurial spirit to bring innovation to our vocations in higher education.

I first met and interacted with Dr. Jordan in my role as Iowa State University's Vice President and Chief Information Officer where I was extremely pleased to select her as our institution's first Digital Accessibility Program Coordinator. In this role, Dr. Jordan was successful in launching a comprehensive program to grow the institutional awareness and to educate our university community to address accessibility for persons with disabilities in all digital content and resources. Dr. Jordan's commitment and dedication to her work and our students was firmly grounded in her doctoral studies in Human Computer Interaction. As a tenured faculty member, I can attest that Dr. Jordan's passion for our students, faculty, and support professionals positioned her exceptionally well to lead the innovation of our digital services as was evident by her commitment to the Iowa State University community.

It is important to note that Iowa State University is a land-grant university that is committed to serving the people of Iowa and our students with research and education that leads to better lives for all. Dr. Jordan understands the mission of a land grant institution and knows how to balance the demands of research and education for the betterment of Puerto Rico. Since our time together at ISU, I have collaborated with Dr. Jordan on other projects and have offered my unwavering support as an advisor for her political pursuits through our efforts at the American Free Enterprise Chamber of Commerce.

Based upon my extensive experience in working with Dr. Jordan, I am confident that she is exceptionally well-qualified to serve as President of the University of Puerto Rico and your community will benefit from her leadership as a firm, fair and kind leader. On a personal note, I can attest that Zayira has a genuine concern for her peers and is intent on ensuring best practices in academia, promoting meaningful research and technology adoption in service of your communities, and is firmly committed to actionable projects that promote the creation of opportunities for education and economic development in Puerto Rico.

My best wishes for a successful search, and please let me know if I may be of further assistance.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jim Kurtenbach*

James M Kurtenbach, PhD

