Another student was sent to us by an advisor because she needed assistance with continuing her academic journey. She said that after meeting with Vallarie, she felt she had finally found someone who truly was an advocate to help her succeed in obtaining her degree. Months later, when tragedy hit her family, she was struggling to do her coursework and did know what to do so she called us. Vallarie was able to refer her to our counseling services who in turn were able to help her work through this tragedy and continue with balancing her home and school life.

On a regular basis, we speak with adults who have experienced life issues that either hindered or prevented them from obtaining their degree – Vallarie is usually the first person who fields these calls and directs them to appropriate resources. After speaking with them either on the phone or in person, it is evident they need someone to listen to their story and encourage them – Vallarie has the skill-set to professionally and compassionately do that. They learn we will be here to help them from the beginning (applying to USA) to the end (graduation) and everything in between.

For these and so many additional reasons, I give my highest recommendation for Mrs. Vallarie Hernandez as "Employee of the Quarter".

Nominated by: Dr. Paige Vitulli

Department of Integrative Studies

Mrs. Hernandez,