

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Educating Students for Christian Service and Leadership Throughout the World

Office of the Provost

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August 21, 2014

Tenure and Promotion Committee
ACU Box 29103
Abilene, Texas 79699

Dear Tenure and Promotion Committee,

This letter is to recommend **Dr. Autumn Sutherlin** for promotion to professor. I have worked with Dr. Sutherlin frequently in her work with undergraduate research.

I first remember meeting Dr. Sutherlin when we were serving on the Undergraduate Research Festival faculty committee in the early days of the festival. My first impression was that she was a smart, likeable, enthusiastic, no-nonsense faculty member, and I'm happy to say I was right.

For the next several years she continued working on the Research Festival and was on the committee whose work resulted in the creation of the Office of Undergraduate Research.

When Dr. Greg Powell decided to step down from directing the Office of Undergraduate Research in the Fall of 2012, I was very pleased to appoint Dr. Sutherlin to the role of director. Since then she has wholeheartedly engaged the faculty and students to support and encourage undergraduate research at ACU.

Under her leadership the Office of Undergraduate Research has: grown the Research Festival in scope and quality; hosted training sessions; organized student/faculty research luncheons in the summer; communicated well through the newsletter and blog; engaged conversations about undergraduate research with faculty and students; and been active in the National Council for Undergraduate Research.

Through dedication to ACU faculty and students, ingenuity and hard work, Dr. Sutherlin has used the small budget her office receives to continue to build the culture of undergraduate research at ACU.

Please let me know if I can answer any questions for you as you consider Dr. Sutherlin's promotion. Call Ext. 2024 or email lewiss@acu.edu. Thank you for your work on this important committee.

Sincerely,

Susan L. Lewis, Ed. D.
Vice Provost