

May 24, 2014

To whom it may concern,

I am honored to have this opportunity of proposing Dr. John Homer for tenure in the School of Information Technology and Computing. I have known Dr. Homer since I began taking courses in the fall of 2010, and have interacted with him a great deal throughout his role as an instructor for the following courses: Programming 1, Programming 2, Programming Languages, Design and Analysis of Algorithms. During these courses, I have come to know Dr. Homer on both academic and professional levels and can therefore comment on his teaching ability and interaction with students.

Dr. Homer is a very dedicated professor with a passion for programming and logic. His ability to connect with students inside the classroom by making the material entertaining and interesting while simultaneously communicating difficult concepts to students in ways that they can understand was unparalleled by any other professor in his field during my time at ACU. For example, Dr. Homer would use a combination of teaching tactics to present concepts, including lectures, discussion, videos, examples, and problems. What sets his teaching style apart from many other professors is his ability to work each class session around students' abilities to learn the material, stopping mid-lecture to answer questions and follow student-guided ideas in the middle of class to help students learn from each other.

One of the important aspects of Dr. Homer's interaction with students is the deep level of respect he gives them and his availability to answer questions and be helpful in working towards a solution, while not simply volunteering the answer. In his classes, he values discussion and structures his classes in a way that allow students to learn at their own pace while providing structure through a loose schedule of topics and lectures. For example, when we were discussing the *n-queens* problem in Programming Languages, Dr. Homer did not plan on spending several class periods discussing solutions and working through the problem, but he rearranged the course schedule so that we, as a class, could spend extra time on the topic and learn how to approach difficult problems like this. This is just one of many examples of Dr. Homer making adjustments to his teaching to enable students to learn at their own pace in multiple teaching formats through class lectures and discussion.

I have personally benefited from Dr. Homer's classes and professional guidance and have the utmost respect for him as a professor and advisor. I believe he is an extremely talented professor who exemplifies Christian leadership in his teaching and interactions with students, and hope that his efforts will be recognized.

Sincerely,

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