

29 June 2018

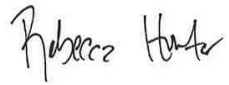
To the Tenure and Promotion Committee:

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. John Homer's application for promotion to the rank of Professor. John and I came to ACU at the same time in 2009, and have gotten to know each other well throughout the years as our families have developed a close friendship. Our families have camped together on several occasions, shared many meals together, been in the same Sunday school class and small group at times, and just generally been involved in one another's lives. John and his wife Laura have been very hospitable to my family on numerous occasions. They often invite us over for lunch after church on Sundays, and often supply the food as well! They are a couple that deeply value friendships and are willing to do what is necessary to ensure that their relationships prosper. I have come to greatly appreciate this about John and Laura, in a time where so many let friendship's lapse due to the many demands on today's families. Over the years, John and I have spent time in conversation about work-related issues, including our respective departmental dynamics, balancing work and home life, teaching issues, etc. I always enjoy having conversations with John; I have learned over the years that he thinks through issues carefully and methodically. I have come to trust his insight and opinion. Several years ago, John and I co-taught an Honors Colloquium class over the topic of collective intelligence. Working with John was a great experience. He was easy to work with, never one to force his agenda, and he brought many great ideas to the table as we planned the five-week course. I learned a lot from teaching with him.

At Highland Church of Christ, I have worked/interacted with John in several capacities. When our families first came to Highland, we became members of the same Sunday school class. This class has now dissolved, but for several years, John played an important role in that class as a Sunday school teacher/discussion leader. Additionally, John and Laura hosted a small group that we were part of at one time. John was an integral part of many small group discussions, and often contributed helpful insight. More recently, I have interacted with John as members of the Highland His Kids Ministry Leadership Team. This team is comprised of a handful of Highland families that have elementary-school-aged children. We meet 4-5 times throughout the year to advise the His Kids Ministry team. During these meetings, John is always willing to offer considerate and well-thought-out advice on whatever topic being discussed. He is a valuable member of this team. John serves as the alternate worship leader for His Kids Worship (Highland's version of children's church) whenever the His Kids minister, Suzetta Nutt, is out of town. John does a great job leading His Kids Worship; he is an animated, engaging story teller. The 3-5 year olds at Highland really like him!

I hope you can tell that I believe John to be a great asset to students, his department, the ACU community, and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Hunter". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'R' and 'H'.

Rebecca Hunter, PhD
Associate Professor of Biology
Abilene Christian University
Rebecca.Hunter@acu.edu