



LAMAR UNIVERSITY

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM™

Dr. James Drachenberg
Assistant Professor
Department of Physics
PO Box 10046
Lamar University
Beaumont, TX 77710

October 23, 2017

Dear Dr. Drachenberg:

I am pleased to inform you that given the unanimous vote of support (4-0-0) submitted by your Department Personnel Committee, the positive recommendation authored by Dr. MaryE Wilkinson, and my assessment of your 2nd Year Peer Review documents, I have concluded that you are making *satisfactory progress toward tenure and promotion* in all five specified component areas, namely the (1) Review and Evaluation of Teaching Proficiency and Effectiveness, (2) Review and Evaluation of Scholarly Production/Research, (3) Review and Evaluation of Professional Achievement, (4) Review and Evaluation of Participation in Department/College/ University Affairs, and (5) Review and Evaluation of Student Relationships.

I have reviewed your dossier and my attached comments with Dr. Marquart, and he has asked that I share my *highly favorable evaluation* with you. Congratulations for your meaningful progress to date, and best wishes as you prepare for a more comprehensive 4th Year Peer Review that is scheduled for 2018-2019. As always, please feel free to contact me if you have any follow-up questions or concerns.

Respectfully,

Joe Nordgren
Interim Dean. College of arts and Sciences

Cc: Dr. Philip Cole
Chair, Department of Physics



TO: Dr. James Marquart
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

FROM: Dr. Joe Nordgren
Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

DATE: June 20, 2017

SUBJECT: Dr. James Drachenberg
2nd Year Peer Review Evaluating Progress toward Tenure and Promotion

Dr. Marquart,

Based on the unanimous vote of support (4-0-0) submitted by the Department Personnel Committee, the recommendation authored by Dr. MaryE Wilkinson, and my assessment of his 2nd Year Review Dossier, I agree that Dr. James Drachenberg, Assistant Professor of Physics, is making *satisfactory progress toward tenure and promotion* in all five specified component areas, namely the (1) Review and Evaluation of Teaching Proficiency and Effectiveness, (2) Review and Evaluation of Scholarly Production/Research, (3) Review and Evaluation of Professional Achievement, (4) Review and Evaluation of Participation in Department/College/ University Affairs, and (5) Review and Evaluation of Student Relationships. The following summary comments are drawn from the sources just mentioned.

Dr. Drachenberg's 2nd Year Peer Review dossier is highly persuasive in content and detail. The documented evidence is compelling on all evaluative fronts. In regard to teaching, Dr. Drachenberg states: "My goal is for instruction to be accessible, conceptual, and analytical" whether that be in a freshman level College Physics II course or in his special topics senior level Data Reduction course. Dr. Drachenberg maintains an open door policy, regularly meets with students during times that accommodate with their schedules, and uses a variety of techniques and evaluative measures that ensure opportunities for success. The Department Personnel Committee notes that Dr. Drachenberg is highly appreciated by his students and colleagues for the energy and ingenuity he brings to the instructional mission of the department.

In addition to his teaching effectiveness, Dr. Drachenberg is a prolific scholar and leader within his profession. Since joining Lamar in fall 2015, he has been the co-author of twenty-peer reviewed publications. In addition, he has been co-convener of the STAR Spin Physics working group, and in this leadership role, his responsibilities stretch from chairing weekly phone conferences to discuss the status of STAR analysis to organizing preparation efforts for collection of polarized proton beam data. Dr. Drachenberg has a national and international reputation for succeeding in all areas of his responsibilities. Clearly, he has the stature and

leadership skills at this point in his career that will draw increasing attention to Lamar's physics program.

To summarize, Dr. Drachenberg has presented a thorough review of his teaching, scholarly, service, and leadership accomplishments. And he has done so in a fair and balanced manner, allowing the facts to convey his exemplary progress toward tenure and promotion. As do his colleagues, I value Dr. Drachenberg's work ethic, his fair judgment, and his collegiality.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joe Nordgren". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Respectfully,".

Dr. Joe Nordgren
Interim Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Cc: Dr. Philip Cole
Chair, Department of Physics

2nd and 4th Year Peer Reviews – Form F2.12
[Circle Either 2nd or 4th, As Appropriate]
(EVALUATING PROGRESS TOWARD TENURE AND PROMOTION TO
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, OR TOWARD TENURE ALONE FOR FACULTY AT THE
RANK OF ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OR PROFESSOR)

Note: Instructions for both reviews appear on page 6.

Name of Faculty Member: James Drachenberg Highest Degree: PhD Year: 2012 Institution: Texas A&M University

Present Rank or Title: Assistant Professor College: Arts & Sciences Department: Physics

Initial Appointment at Lamar: Date: 9/1/2015 Rank: Assistant Professor

Credit (in years) for Prior Experience toward: Promotion: _____ Tenure: _____

Full-Time Professional Experience:

(Including current academic year) Non-Coll/Univ: _____ Non-Lamar Coll/Univ: 0.5 Lamar: 2 Total: 2.5

Number of Years in Current Rank at Lamar (including current academic year):

2

Review and Evaluation of Teaching Proficiency and Effectiveness

Dr. Drachenberg has excellent student evaluations, and he is highly appreciated by students and colleagues for his constant availability in helping students with course material. Thanks to his open-door policy, he helps the students of his classes daily even outside of office hours. Dr. Drachenberg deserves high praise for all his teaching efforts.

Review and Evaluation of Scholarly Production/Research/Creativity

In spite of his teaching efforts, Dr. Drachenberg's research productivity has been very high. Since he joined Lamar University, Dr. Drachenberg has been the co-author of twenty peer-reviewed publications, and he has made direct contributions to four of them. He has already involved students in his research, and he has submitted a grant proposal to NSF. This is considered a great start for tenure.

Review and Evaluation of Professional Achievement and Leadership

Dr. Drachenberg is the co-convenor of the spin physics group of the STAR collaboration, which is one of the most important experimental nuclear-physics collaborations in the world. This shows that he has the scientific stature and the leadership skills necessary for tenure.

Review and Evaluation of Participation in Department/College/University Affairs

Dr. Drachenberg has provided outstanding service to the department through SACS's work and committees. He has also participated in a College committee.

Review and Evaluation of Student Relationships

Dr. Drachenberg has a great rapport with students, as shown by his excellent student evaluations and the students whose research he is mentoring. He is viewed as a role model and a strong teacher.

Department Committee Vote on Satisfactory Progress (Y-N-A): 4 - 0 - 0

Rafael de la Hoz, 3/19/17, Committee Chair
Signature Date

_____, _____, Member
Signature Date

Bohanna Clark, 3/19/17, Member
Signature Date

_____, _____, Member
Signature Date

[Signature], 3/20/17, Member
Signature Date

_____, _____, Member
Signature Date

_____, _____, Member
Signature Date

_____, _____, Member
Signature Date

[Signature], 3/20/17, College Committee Representative (2nd Year Review Only)
Signature Date

_____/_____, Dean
Signature Date