

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Educating Students for Christian Service and Leadership Throughout the World

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August 17, 2020

Dear Tenure & Promotion Committee,

It is my privilege to write a letter in support of Dr. Drachenberg's application for tenure. As an ACU faculty member who was hired the same year as Dr. Drachenberg, I believe that I am well-positioned to comment on his contributions to the greater ACU community. Not only is Dr. Drachenberg a hard-working faculty member, but he is also a dedicated educator and mentor for his students. Additionally, he seeks to develop and maintain relationships with faculty outside of the Department of Engineering and Physics.

Dr. Drachenberg and I completed the Adams Center New Faculty Orientation and the Master Teacher Program together. During these programs, I have observed his thoughtfulness regarding pedagogical choices within his course. He also has an innate drive to inspire excellence within his students. He is particularly skilled at guiding his students in lecture or laboratory settings and encouraging their experimental efforts. Dr. Drachenberg is truly an expert in his field, and diligently works as a research scientist. Simultaneously, he treats his students as fellow scientists and deftly guides their learning, while still allowing them the freedom to experiment and explore. Dr. Drachenberg successfully models an authentic Christian spirituality and dedication to scholarly excellence.

As we have participated in Adams Center Trainings together, I have appreciated his insights into experiential learning. I have also learned how to better structure my lab assignments so that they encourage more curiosity and exploration in my students. We have worked together this past summer to develop an Honors Colloquium on Biophysics and Biomechanics. It has been a joy to work with him on this interdisciplinary course. I am confident that our students will enthusiastically engage with our Honors Colloquium and gain greater subject mastery. I look forward to working with him on other Honors Colloquia in the future.

I want to express my admiration for the investments Dr. Drachenberg continues to make in his students, other faculty, and the greater ACU community. He exemplifies key traits such as meticulous scholarship, committed instruction, and servant leadership that make him an ideal fit for ACU. Therefore, I strongly recommend Dr. Drachenberg for tenure. I hope that he serves the ACU community for many years to come.

Sincerely,

Kendra L. Jernigan
Assistant Professor of Environmental Science