

To whom it may concern,

It is with pleasure that I write this letter to support Dr. John Ehrke in his tenure application. I took two courses with Dr. Ehrke, Ordinary Differential Equations and Partial Differential Equations. I was drawn in easily by the passion he had for the subject and the mastery with which he taught the material. These two courses were the most difficult math courses I have taken at ACU, and I feel confident that I learned more from these courses than I have in most other classes I've taken.

Dr. Ehrke was always very prepared for his lectures. His slides and notes allowed us to get through incredible amounts of information in each class. He also assigned homework problems that introduced new information, allowing us to work through new problems and learn interactively. It gave us a chance to practice our skills and learn at the same time. But as I mentioned before, Dr. Ehrke's passion for the subjects made his teaching most effective. He is engaging and happy to put in extra effort to ensure that his students see the beauty in the subject that he sees.

I also have had the privilege to work with Dr. Ehrke as a research adviser. He found a research topic of interest and supplied me with direction and advice as I explored the topic. It has been an incredible experience getting to engage in real research and having such an experienced professor to support my efforts. While doing research this summer, Dr. Ehrke shared with me some of his plans for classes next year and I became well aware of how dedicated he is to his teaching. He has been recording videos to go with particular lectures in various classes. I believe his intention is to make the videos available to the whole department so other professors can use his contributions.

Dr. Ehrke is rare in that he is a highly capable professor in both the lower level, remedial courses and in the upper level courses. I have had many conversations with him about wishing ACU offered a Complex Analysis course, as well as other high level math courses that undergraduates ought to have access to. He has responded well to these wishes and shared with me that his goal is to create a whole series along the differential equations route that includes a complex analysis course. Dr. Ehrke is very driven and I hope he continues to be given opportunities to build the strong programs that he is capable of building.

Dr. Ehrke is a powerful asset to the school and to the students he teaches. He is an invaluable addition to the math department and I have very much enjoyed taking classes with him. I would encourage any student to jump at the opportunity to have him for a professor and wish I had more chances to take courses from him myself. There is no doubt in my mind that Dr. Ehrke deserves high regards when you consider his tenure application. Thank you.

Regards,

Adam Simpson  
Junior Physics/Mathematics Major