

Tuesday, August 18, 2020

To the Tenure and Promotion Committees:

It is my pleasure to strongly recommend Dr. Ryan Jessup for promotion to full professor.

Last semester, I completed my first year as a full-time faculty member at ACU. Before then, I was in conversations with COBA for more than five years about teaching here. Throughout the whole process, Dr. Jessup was a mentor and encourager by helping me get ready and facilitating conversations in the department. His support has continued now that I am a new instructor; he has challenged me to think beyond teaching by guiding me as I apply to enroll in a doctorate program and start my work as a researcher. He does all of this proactively even before I ask for any help.

I have also been able to know Dr. Jessup outside of academic activities. He is a champion of collegiality. For example, several generations of faculty, staff, and graduate students have been able to practice a sport we love thanks to Dr. Jessup's leadership in the formation and continuation of the *Sunflowers of Death* intramurals, soccer team. The team has been active for many years. Also, as a new instructor, he has helped me connect with other faculty through invitations to lunches, game nights, and other activities. Of course, his friendship has meant a lot to me, but his actions also benefit ACU by making it a better place for many people.

As I get to know my upper-class students, it is impressive to see how much respect they have for Dr. Jessup. He is one of the best teachers in our department, as evident by the students' opinions of him and their academic development in his classes. This is even a more significant accomplishment when one considers the technical difficulty of his classes. In fact, I can attest to the quality of his teaching from a student's perspective since I took his graduate *Business Analytics* class while I was doing ACU's MBA program.

It is difficult to convey Dr. Jessup's contributions to me, COBA, and ACU in just a few paragraphs. If you need more information, including more specific examples, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Jorge Daniel Garcia
Instructor of Management Sciences
Abilene Christian University