

June 21, 2021

To the tenure and promotion committee:

I am writing to you to offer my absolute support of Dr. Easter's application to a tenured, associate professorship. I urge you to confirm her promotion because her dedication and actions demonstrate that she is an effective, service-oriented faculty member who advances the mission of ACU.

I met Dr. Easter in the Spring of 2020 upon my acceptance to her Social Enterprise Consulting class, a selective course that served as a consulting project for a women's entrepreneurial co-operative in Costa Rica. The very existence of this special topic course is a testament to Dr. Easter's drive and servant-like motivations. She, along with Dr. Laura Phillips, took the initiative to organize this unique class to offer students a chance to interact with real clients. Moreover, Dr. Easter's incorporation of faith into her instruction indelibly imprinted in me the opportunity for Christian service in secular, for-profit organizations. She directly linked our work and our learning to principles of love, selflessness, and humility.

Crucially, I know that her capabilities are not limited to only a small, special topic course. Dr. Easter is adept at bringing the same passion and scholarship to a larger classroom setting as well. When I took the College of Business Administration's capstone course, Strategic Management, she concluded my education well by crafting assignments that recalled concepts from my last three years in COBA while also providing me with new lessons that gave me practical skills for a career outside of college. Like a good conclusion of an essay, she reminded us of the most important lessons we had learned, and she directed us forward with a sense of purpose and knowledge. This is evidenced by her teaching of strategic decision making frameworks along with the opportunity to work with a real client like X-Batt, a battery research and development company on the edge of a true strategic decision.

Individually, though, Dr. Easter has been a guiding force in my life. Her classes exposed me to the two fields I am most interested in now as I search for a career - consulting and development, yet it is her mentorship outside the classroom that truly signifies how invaluable she is to the ACU community. As my time at ACU drew near an end and I sought out my next steps, the Peace Corps' economic development program became a clear match for me. Dr. Easter eagerly and immediately offered her support. She answered countless questions, edited several drafts of my resumé, and reviewed my essay for my application. Moreover, since she had lived in Vietnam for a year as a consultant to a social enterprise for disabled persons, she offered a wisdom of experience, especially in how she maintained her faith during a time of religious isolation. She has been all you could ask for in a mentor to me.

The university and COBA truly stand to benefit immensely by offering Dr. Easter promotion.

Sincerely,

Daniel Sherman
BBA Business Management 2021
SGA Student Body President 2020-21