



August 10, 2020

To the Tenure and Promotion Committee,

I am writing this letter to recommend to you Dr. Jim Drachenberg for tenure without hesitation. Since coming to ACU Jim has been an integral member of our department. He has never shied away from serving in any way, but instead has taken on each task with diligence and served with excellence.

As stated above Dr. Drachenberg has served our department in a number of ways. Specifically, with respect to teaching he has championed the redesign of the Engineering Physics I and II sequence that all majors take in our department. Through that process he has redeveloped labs to make them more engaging for students and I have heard nothing but positive reviews from students that have taken the class. They indicate that not only did he provide a great path to learning, but also that he genuinely provided ways for self-discovery of information.

As if his excellence in teaching were not enough, he also is a successful scholar. Dr. Drachenberg is a member of the STAR collaboration at RHIC, where he has served as the Deputy spokesperson for the collaboration. This is a large and impressive undertaking that brings great prestige and recognition to our university. At the local level, I have watched the droves of students he mentors each year and the care and respect they have for him, the opportunity he helps to provide, and his mentorship. He has been a great ambassador for ACU on a worldwide stage and to students here in Abilene.

Jim has also been a great person to have in our departmental meetings. He brings in his experiences from past institutions to give valuable reason and perspective. I look forward to hearing his perspective and am grateful for the way he considers and provides feedback. He is willing to serve in any capacity whether it be leading our supporting. I have enjoyed his talks in departmental chapel and his ability to connect with students on a spiritual level.

Getting to know and work with Dr. Drachenberg has been a pleasure. He is more than willing to lead, or help with any task we need. The quality and care that he invests is exemplary. He is a great example of what a professor at ACU should be; caring, kind, innovative, and an expert in his field. I am grateful to have him as a colleague and we as a department are blessed to have him as a part of our department.

Again, it is with full confidence that I recommend Dr. Jim Drachenberg for tenure.

Grace and Peace,

Timothy Kennedy, Ph.D., P.E.
Executive Director of Engineering
Associate Professor of Engineering and Physics