

ABILENE CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY

Educating Students for Christian Service and Leadership Throughout the World

Office of the Provost

200 Hardin Administration Building, ACU Box 29103, Abilene, Texas 79699-9103
325-674-2024 • Fax 325-674-6785



August 7, 2013

Tenure and Promotion Committee

ACU Box 29103

Abilene, Texas 79699

Dear Tenure and Promotion Committee,

This letter is to recommend **Dr. Lynette Austin** for promotion and tenure. I have worked with Lynette on the Institutional Review Board, and I believe that she is a highly qualified candidate for promotion and tenure at ACU.

I have found Lynette to be focused on improving systems to create a better research environment and to effectively apply the guidelines for protections of human and animal subjects.

When I began chairing the IRB last fall Lynette was one of the four designated reviewers. Because of her experience reviewing IRB proposals, she was concerned with the IRB being fully trained and dedicated solely to the protection of human and animal subjects. She supported the proposal to separate the IRB from the Research Council, which the faculty voted to approve in the spring.

Lynette has agreed to continue serving as a member of the IRB, and she takes that role seriously. She is dependable and collegial. Lynette is an excellent and timely reviewer who offers constructive feedback to researchers. She is attentive to researchers' need for timely reviews – even reviewing a particularly difficult proposal that required a full board review while she was out of town at a conference. In fact, she has turned around quite a few reviews in record time.

Additionally, as an ex-officio of the Undergraduate General Education Council I have heard Lynette represent her colleagues well as a council member. She asks good questions. One common thread I have noticed in Lynette's comments in UGEC is that she works to ensure the decisions she makes reflect her faith in Christ and the commitment of the institution to keep Christ at the center of our work.

I am very pleased to recommend Lynette for tenure and promotion. Her dedication to Christ, her colleagues and her profession make her a good fit for ACU.

Please let me know if I can answer any questions for you as you consider Lynette for promotion and tenure. Call Ext. 2024 or email lewiss@acu.edu. Thank you for your work on this important committee.

Sincerely,

Susan L. Lewis, Ed. D.
Vice Provost