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To: Dr. Haili He, Elsevier Beijing Ltd., China

From: Robert McNown, Professor Emeritus, University of Colorado Boulder

Subject: Concern over the proposed change in editorial leadership at the Journal of Asian Economics

Date: April 14, 2020

I am writing to express my support for the current editorial leadership of the Journal of Asian Economics and to urge Elsevier to maintain Editors and staff who have contributed to the quality of this journal. As one who have contributed to the Journal as both author and reviewer, I have certainly noticed that the level of quality of papers published in the Journal has improved substantially in recent years. Studies of Asian economies has become increasingly important in this century as a result of the differing strategies across Asian countries towards economic growth and development. The Journal of Asian Economics has been at the frontier of this important field of study, publishing articles that are widely read and respected by Asianists and economists around the world.

Dr. Calla Wiemer has been a significant force behind the elevation of the status of the Journal of Asian Economics since taking the position of Editor-in-Chief in 2015. The citation and journal ranking statistics attest to this improvement. I have found as an author and a reviewer that Dr. Wiemer exercises sound judgement in editorial duties. Manuscripts are processes smoothly and with careful consideration, and the editorial process leads to substantial improvement in the quality of papers that I have written or those I have reviewed. It is important that this leadership by Dr. Wiemer be rewarded by reappointment to a multi-year position as Editor-in-Chief. Those of us working in this field have been fortunate to benefit from Dr. Wiemer's service in this position, and I strongly urge Elsevier to continue her as Editor-in-Chief.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert McNown".

Robert McNown

Emeritus Professor