



ATENEUM DE MANILA UNIVERSITY  
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Department of Economics

10 April 2020

**Dr. Haili He**  
Elsevier Beijing Ltd., China

**Subject: Letter of support for Dr. Calla Wiemer as Editor-in-Chief of JAE**

Dear Dr. He:

I am writing to you in support of Dr. Calla Wiemer as editor-in-chief of the Journal of Asian Economics (JAE). I have known Calla as a colleague when she and I both taught at the University of the Philippines (UP) and as editor of JAE. I remember back then when she just joined UP that JAE is not yet included in the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) journal list. As such it was difficult for her to convince people at UP to submit manuscripts to JAE. UP, Ateneo de Manila University, and other universities in the Philippines give a greater weight for publications included in the SSCI list. By end of 2018, Calla announced that JAE has finally been included in the list, which means that it has met all the objective metrics required to be included in the SSCI. This achievement of JAE speaks well of Calla's helm as editor-in-chief.

Upon learning that JAE is now included in the SSCI list, this gave scholars in the Philippines, including myself, an incentive to submit a manuscript. Ours was eventually published in 2019. I can say that the final form of our paper was shaped by Calla and the two referees. As editor-in-chief, she invests time in carefully reviewing each manuscript and making sure that the final form is in top shape. After our first response to the referees' comments, we still had a couple of exchanges with her to make sure that our article is understood by wider readers.

Outside of my experience with her during the submission and revision process of our article, I have also seen Calla promoting JAE both online in social media and in various academic conferences. As former President of the Philippine Economic Society (PES), I had invited Calla on several occasions at the PES annual conference. The most recent of which was on November 2019, in a session titled, "Conversations with Journal Editors." Calla gave very good advice and publishing strategies, which was well-received by the audience.

Moreover, it would be a great loss to JAE if Calla will not continue her editorship at this time when the JAE's momentum is on the rise. Thus, I strongly support that she be given a three-year renewable contract for her position as editor-in-chief to let her finish the job that she started.

Should you need further inquiries, please don't hesitate to message me through email [mravago@ateneo.edu](mailto:mravago@ateneo.edu).

Sincerely,

  
**Majah-Leah W. Ravago, PhD**  
Associate Professor