

James A. Roumasset
Professor
808-956-7496 jimr@hawaii.edu

13 April 2019

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 in support of Dr. Calla Wiemer as editor-in-chief of the Journal of Asian Economics (JAE). I have known Calla as a colleague at the University of Hawaii and at the University of the Philippines. As you know, Dr. Wiemer has succeeded in greatly increasing the prestige of JAE, in particular in getting it accepted to the Social Science Citation Index (SSCI) journal list. This achievement, along with the improved ranking of JAE makes it an attractive outlet for leading scholars of Asian economics. These achievements are a credit to Calla's leadership at JAE.

Dr. Wiemer also played a very hands-on role in advancing our recent manuscript on electricity pricing and structural transformation in the Philippines advanced to publication in JAE. Calla was very helpful in this process, giving us clear and very specific recommendations on needed improvements to our paper. In the process, we were very impressed with her commitment to the quality of JAE publications. Even after our responses to referees were complete, she continued corresponding with us on possible improvements to enhance our article's appeal to a wide readership. This reveals a dedication to continuing to improve JAE's ranking.

Dr. Wiemer also frequently participates in Philippine and SEA conferences where she always strives to build contacts and promote JAE. She recently gave a presentation to the Philippine Economic Society on advice for authors, which was very well received.

I believe it will be a great loss to JAE if Calla is not encouraged to continue her editorship. As you know, losing her is likely to result in losing JAE's affiliation with the American Committee on Asian Economic Studies, a relationship that has been very productive for both institutions. If the intent is to weaken the association between JAE and ACAES, a better approach would be to affiliate with more country and regional economic associations, not to discriminate against one.

Accordingly, I strongly support Dr. Weimer's being given a three-year renewable contract for her position as Editor-in-Chief of JAE. Feel free to contact me if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Roumasset".

James Roumasset
Professor Emeritus

