

Date: April 15th, 2020

Dear Dr. He,

I am writing to you in support of the editor of *Journal of Asian Economics*, Prof. Calla Wiemer.

My name is Nadia Doytch, an Assoc. Prof. of Economics at City University of New York- Brooklyn College and the Graduate Center (USA) and a Non-resident Research Fellow at Ateneo de Manila University- School of Government (The Philippines). I have been involved with the American Committee on Asian Economics Studies (ACAES) for over ten years and I have published in the *Journal of Asian Economics (JAE)* twice: once under the editorship of Prof. Plummer; and once under the editorship of Prof. Wiemer. I have also been engaged as a referee for several articles submitted to the *JAE*.

I was surprised unpleasantly to learn that the decision regarding the editorship of *JAE* does not lie with our society, ACAES, and that Prof. Wiemer may not be renewed as an editor beyond this year. I was further perplexed to learn that a detailed review of her work was not available, so in fact, at ACAES there is no good understanding of why she is facing the possible non-renewal of contact.

Prof. Wiemer has worked tirelessly in the past four years to raise the status of *JAE* in the profession, to attract topical cutting-edge research and to improve the quality of the published manuscripts. Prof. Wiemer successfully concluded the process of obtaining an SSCI indexing for *JAE* in 2017. In the past three years, the SSCI index of *JAE* has increased very notably. A quick check of the Scopus CiteScore index reveals a robust upward trend for *JAE* for the past nine years with the score close to tripling (from 0.69 in 2011 to 1.99, projected for 2019) in that period. Moreover, the CiteScore has risen sharply in the past two years, to 1.59 in 2018 and 1.99 (preliminary) for 2019- an achievement that cannot be accomplished without the arduous dedicated work of the editor.

The above increase in rankings and citation scores is not a surprise. Prof. Wiemer has actively organized sessions on hot economics topics at the American Economic Association/ASSA convention each year. She has called papers on “Application of Behavioral Economics to Asia”, “Financial Development in Asian Countries”, “Climate Change and Environment in Asian Economies”, “Uncertainty and Risk Management for Asian Economies”, “Bubbles in Asian Economies” and most recently, on “Economics of Innovation in Asia”. Prof. Wiemer works assiduously with the authors of the papers until every detail is cleared for publication. She responds in timely manner to emails and is always fair in her comments and judgements.

Perhaps any additional requirements that the publisher might have would be easily met, should they be communicated. Prof. Wiemer definitely deserves a fair review of her work. I am confident that any review would show no deficiencies, but rather contributions. In my opinion she has earned the right to have the opportunity to continue as an Editor-in-Chief for *JAE*. Moreover, in my opinion, you will not find a better editor than her for the job.

Respectfully,
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