



Department of Statistics

1220 Medical Science Center
1300 University Avenue
Madison, WI 53706-1532
(608) 262-2598

July 15, 2021

Faculty CAREER Program
Division of Mathematical Sciences
Mathematical and Physical Science Directorate
National Science Foundation
2415 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22314

Re: Dr. Miaoyan Wang's CAREER Grant Proposal

Dear Program Officers,

This is a department letter for the CAREER proposal of Dr. Miaoyan Wang to certify that the Statistics Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison is committed to support her professional development plan and that her proposed CAREER activities are supported by and integrated into the educational and research goals of the Department as well as the University.

Dr. Wang has been a tenure-track assistant professor since joining our department in 2018. She will be given the teaching assignments tailored to the educational agenda that she proposes in the grant application. She will be provided with clerical assistance for her efforts described in the proposal as well as the computational resources and facilities described in the proposal. The department support will ensure that if this proposal is funded, she will carry out the proposed research and educational plan successfully, including software development and dissemination, new course development, and student training.

Dr. Wang's proposed research and educational activities are consistent with our

department's missions. She has a faculty mentoring committee in the Department to provide specific advices each academic year on her progress toward promotion and career development and this will continue. The integration of teaching and research described in the proposal is a goal of the Department and the specific research topics are in line with the Department Strategic Plan. The development of outstanding researchers and educators with leadership qualities is a goal of the Department and this proposal is significant step toward that goal.

Dr. Wang's research areas lie in statistical machine learning, matrix/tensor data analysis, high-dimensional statistics, nonparametric learning, and population/statistical genetics. Her cutting-edge research agendas are compatible with and in fact enrich our department's research programs in statistics. She has been very productive in both research and teaching. In particular, a highlight of Dr. Wang's teacher-scholar accomplishment is the two best student paper awards (mentored by her as advisor) from American Statistical Association in 2021, and her CAREER plan will strengthen multidisciplinary collaboration while integrating research and educational activities at the interaction of statistics, machine learning, and computer science. Dr. Wang currently advises several PhD students and has taught a variety of courses including core courses for our undergraduate and graduate programs. The proposed educational activities will make important contributions to the teaching and training programs in our department.

To the best of my knowledge, the CAREER eligibility information provided in Dr. Wang's proposal is accurate. She has not received any NSF CAREER award. I attest that Dr. Wang received her doctoral degree in statistics in 2015, and that she is currently an untenured but tenure-track assistant professor in the Department. Dr. Wang is eligible for the NSF CAREER program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Yazhen' followed by a stylized surname.

Yazhen Wang
Professor and Chair