

February 3, 2025

Dear Members of the Search Committee,

I am pleased to recommend Yiran Zheng for the Visiting Full-Time Faculty Position in Economics. Over the past year and a half, I have supervised Yiran as the Coordinator for Graduate Instructors, and during this time, she has quickly established herself as one of our most dedicated and effective instructors.

For the last few semesters, Yiran has successfully taught large sections of ECO 2305: Principles of Economics, typically managing a class of around 100 students—a significant challenge for any instructor, particularly one balancing a full graduate course load. She handles this responsibility with remarkable organization, enthusiasm, and care for her students' learning. Her course evaluations consistently reflect her ability to make complex economic concepts accessible, and students regularly commend her for her clarity, responsiveness, and genuine investment in their success.

Beyond the classroom, Yiran goes above and beyond to support her students. She is consistently available to answer questions, holds extra office hours when needed, and provides thoughtful, individualized feedback. Her patience and willingness to work with students at all levels ensure that they not only grasp the material but also develop confidence in applying it. In addition, she is always receptive to feedback, actively refining her teaching approach based on student needs and faculty guidance.

Moreover, Yiran is a pleasure to work with. She is highly professional, engaged, and collegial. Her reliability and proactive approach have made my role as coordinator easier, as I can always count on her to handle challenges with professionalism and dedication.

I am confident that Yiran's passion for teaching and commitment to student success will make her an asset to the Department of Economics and Accounting. Please feel free to reach out if I can provide any additional insights into her qualifications.

Sincerely,

James W. Kemper Lecturer and GPTI Coordinator Department of Economics 806.834.7691 Holden Hall 243