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Dr. Haili He
Elsevier Beijing Ltd.
China

April 15, 2020

Dear Dr. He

Re: A letter of support for Dr. Calla Wiemer's re-appointment as EiC-JAE

I have Guest Edited the Journal of Asian Economics (JAE) in the past and will Guest Edit a Special Issue in 2020—an issue associated with the annual conference of the Central Bank of Indonesia (Bank Indonesia). It is fitting for me to start with this statement because it was during Bank Indonesia's 2019 conference that I met Dr. Wiemer. She actively promoted the journal at Indonesia's leading conference attended by over 400 people. I was impressed with the vision she had for JAE—to take the journal to less penetrated markets and Indonesia been one of those markets. She has since actively worked with me in securing papers from Indonesia conference. Her vision reflected in her agreeing to a SI of JAE associated with the 2020 conference.

At this point, before I proceed any further, it is imperative for me to mention that in me you have a person with 20 years of journal editing experience, have edited around 30 journals, have been editor-in-chief of two big journals (receiving between 1,000 to 2,000 papers per year), and have attended two dozen editors forums. The message is that I understand the journal editing world better than most administrators and editors—this statement should not be taken lightly, for if you do the loss is not mine. With this type of experience, one can read editors in terms of quality. In Dr. Wiemer, I saw that quality and passion for journal editing often missing in veteran editors. I also saw the passion for encouraging paper submissions to JAE with the view of taking Asian research forward in a visible and impactful way. By way of evidence on this, all statistics of the journal, from number of submissions, to impact factor, to cite scores, have undergone impressive growth.

That Dr. Wiemer has been the president of the American Committee on Asian Economic Studies (ACAES) has perhaps motivated her to work that much harder in progressing the journal to what it is today. And it is, therefore, not surprising that there are concerns on the future of the profession in light of not re-appointing Dr. Wiemer on a long- term basis.

I believe given my experience with JAE that with Dr Wiemer there is a greater integration of Asian-based research; and there is a greater connection between the journal not only with academic institutions in Asia but also with policy institutions such as Central banks. Dr. Wiemer is at the forefront of this transformation of the JAE to build bridges with institutions and publish cutting edge research ideas in JAE. This work must be offered a clear and sustainable path to success. I believe Dr.

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Wiemer is an asset to JAE—an asset that should be respected both for what she has achieved for JAE and what she is set to achieve over the next 3-5 years. This is that much more sensible in light of the fact that we are operational at a time when finding editors with passion is a thing of the past.

All told, do contact me for any further clarifications.

Yours sincerely

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