

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY  
HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23668

DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE  
(757) 727-5440

27 October 2006

Dr. Joyce Jarrett, Provost  
Hampton University  
Hampton, Virginia 23668

Dear Dr. Jarrett:

With great pleasure I wish to add my voice to the many that are supporting Shannon Chance for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor at Hampton University. I have been acquainted with Shannon since she first began teaching at Hampton as an adjunct. We have jointly taught Second Year Design Studio, and since she joined the Hampton University Department of Architecture, we have been officemates. As the years have passed, I have worked with and observed Shannon in almost all academic capacities, and due in large part to proximity, I have been able to help guide and mentor her through her beginning years at Hampton.

Shannon's intense and complete dedication to the education and personal development of her students is clear. She has incorporated many of the most innovative and effective teaching strategies that have been developed in architectural and higher education. Shannon is also continuing her personal development as an educator, pursuing coursework at Old Dominion University, and the College of William and Mary. She is an extremely challenging and inspiring teacher. While all of us in Architecture take pride in our high level of student involvement, it can easily be said that Shannon is at the top, especially in the promotion of the student work. Despite working at the sophomore level, she has a great record of student projects being included in conference presentations, and being recognized by local municipalities.

Beyond teaching, Shannon has also made valuable contributions to the University, and to Architectural Education. She has been the leader in the Department's required foreign travel program, having secured approximately \$100,000 in grant funding for student travel to Africa. It should be noted that while she has involved other universities in some of these endeavors, notably



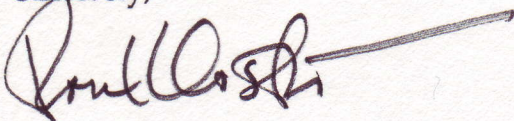
Kansas State University, Shannon initiated the programs and kept Hampton University in the lead throughout. Our students have also had the opportunity to work with peers at the University in Dar Es Salaam while participating in these programs. She has also chaired the National Conference on Teaching the Beginning Design Student, which Hampton hosted in 2004, contributed textbook chapters on housing for long-term health care, and contributed to two Department Grants from the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Shannon is also a willing and able campus community, and local community member. She recently completed a term as a member of the Portsmouth Architectural Review Committee, and is a very visible contributor on campus, having just come off of the Committee on Academic Personnel, and recently been appointed to the SACS Steering Committee. She has been of incredible value to the department as we implement our new Master of Architecture curriculum. Our curriculum had not received major revisions in over twenty years, and Shannon's voice was of primary importance in the formulation of a new set of global and community-based course initiatives.

There is no faculty member at HU whom I would recommend more highly than I do Shannon. She is an exceptional teacher, administrator, colleague, and professional. She is an inspiring young woman with astounding energy, broad and deep knowledge of the arts and humanities, and of her profession. She possesses impressive oral and written skills, and has strong leadership and administrative abilities.

I cannot overstate the high esteem that I have for Shannon. She is an exceptional academic and person. As I stated, I know of no one whom I would recommend more highly for tenure and promotion at Hampton University. She has been and will continue to be a real asset and resource for the entire Hampton University community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ronald J. Kloster", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ronald J. Kloster, RA, CNU  
Assistant Professor, Department of Architecture  
Assistant to the Dean, School of Engineering and Technology  
Hampton University