

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY
HAMPTON, VIRGINIA 23668

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
(757) 727-5421

October 21, 2013

Dr. Pamela V. Hammond
Provost
Hampton University
Hampton, VA 23668

Dear Dr. Hammond:

I am writing to endorse the promotion application of Dr. Shannon Chance to the rank of Professor. I have watched her growth as an educator since 2000 when, in my role as Assistant Provost, I interviewed her for the position of Assistant Professor of Architecture. At that time, she had already served as an adjunct professor for one year and she came highly recommended by her chair, Mr. Bradford Grant to assume a full-time position. It was evident even then that Shannon had a passion for teaching and research as well as a clear vision for applying disciplinary concepts to improve communities.

In her first years, she focused on developing effective teaching skills, and she conducted research to support her teaching. Her early work included a number of diversity studies and an award-winning op-ed piece on diversity in architecture. She also chaired a national conference on pedagogy on Hampton University's campus and produced proceedings for that event. Through this work, she encouraged a national discussion of diversity in the arena of design education.

Shannon helped to construct her department's new Master of Architecture curriculum, built new courses to support it, and found innovative new ways to support the department's shared identity (which focused on community development and cultural diversity). She secured grants to bring Hampton University architecture students to Africa for the first time. As a result of her ingenuity, architecture students were able to travel to Tanzania, South Africa, and Tunisia, in addition to European countries.

Shannon Chance has always been willing to share her ideas with colleagues. Because of this, I invited her to speak at the 2008 Spring Faculty Institute on the topic of "Maintaining an Enthusiasm for Teaching: Secrets to Success." Indeed she is a model teacher: continually striving to draw from research, generating new knowledge, and applying new techniques in the classroom. Increasingly, she has become more active in importing new knowledge from other parts of the world. Moreover, she earned architectural licensure in an effort to become a more effective architecture teacher and a PhD to become a stronger researcher.

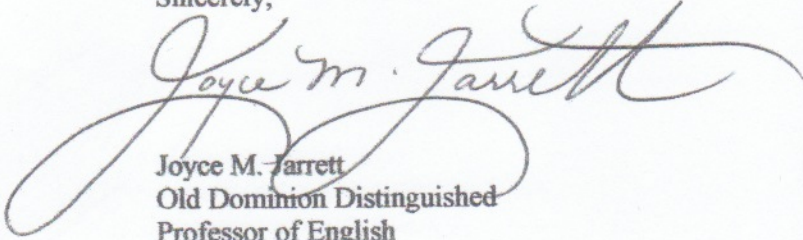
One of Dr. Chance's greatest achievements to date has been her garnering a prestigious Fulbright fellowship in order to practice and extend her new research skills. Over the past year, I have followed her progress by being a frequent visitor on the blog she created, *Ireland by Chance*, which has represented Hampton University very well. The blog entries show how she is seeking to connect disparate fields (architecture, engineering, culture studies, and even public health) and to bring the findings of her research to widespread audiences. She is also implementing new techniques (discovered through her research in Ireland) and applying them here at Hampton University. In addition to presenting research findings in Greece, Ireland, Portugal, and Belgium last year, Dr. Chance also published more than a dozen

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papers in journals and conference proceedings. She has three book chapters in press, and she continues to post blogs about events at Hampton University.

I enthusiastically endorse Dr. Chance's application for promotion to full professor. Her accomplishments in teaching, research, and service speak for themselves. She is one of Hampton's brightest stars and has earned her place to be a part of its promising future. If I can assist you further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joyce M. Jarrett". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Joyce M. Jarrett
Old Dominion Distinguished
Professor of English