

To: Michael Winston

From: Sean Hutcherson

Re: Peer Evaluation of Benjamin Holt

Date: January 14, 2021

Southwestern Oregon Community College made a wise choice back in the Spring of 2018 when it extended a job offer to Benjamin (Ben) Holt to teach mathematics as a tenure track instructor. Ben is a very hard-working, conscientious individual who goes above and beyond to help his students succeed. Ben's student evaluations indicate that he is a caring instructor who is greatly appreciated by his students. Ben taught primarily face-to-face classes during his first year and during fall and winter terms of his second year.

Due to the pandemic that turned this world upside down last March, faculty were given the daunting task of converting all of their classes to an online format by the beginning of spring term. Ben made a seamless transition to this mode of teaching and has continued to teach all of his classes online this year. Ben has been utilizing his comprehensive website ([www.holt.blue](http://www.holt.blue)) for all of his online classes. Ben's website contains a wealth of information that includes notes, detailed video lectures, and access to free online textbooks.

The peer evaluation committee for Ben for this 2020-21 academic year consists of Sean Hutcherson (Chair), Piper Lisseveld, and Kyriakos Kyriotakis. Below are some comments made by individuals on Ben's peer evaluation committee:

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"The (online) course is straightforward to navigate, nicely organized, and above all, it does a wonderful job to facilitate learning."

"Ben has done an excellent job at packaging objectives, keeping upbeat and interesting throughout the video."

"It was enjoyable to watch the videos, pause to practice, and then complete the homework. Holt.Blue website is laid out nicely and is easy to navigate from all areas of the site. Coordinated nicely with myLakerLink so students can find links and information."

“Ben’s website is truly remarkable. It provides many tools to help his students succeed. For many of his classes, Ben has recorded video lectures that are very thorough with clear explanations. Ben’s passion for mathematics is apparent in the extraordinary number of videos that he has generated.”

“I appreciate the way Ben is constantly reflecting on his teaching practice. This is evidenced by his *Narrative Reflection* that he writes at the end of each term and includes in his website. In these reflections, he notes his successes as well as identifies areas upon which he feels he can improve. He divides his narratives into three sections: 1) What Went Well, 2) Where to Improve, and 3) What Lies Ahead.”

“Overall, it is evident that Ben is an instructor that is passionate about statistics and is working diligently to ensure his students are successful in this course!”

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In conclusion, the peer evaluation committee commends Ben for all of the work he has done during his three years at Southwestern Oregon Community College. This college and its students are very fortunate to have Ben as a member of the mathematics faculty. We unhesitatingly recommend that Ben be given tenure this year.

**Piper Lisseveld**

**Kyriakos Kypriotakis**

**Sean Hutcherson**