

# UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

---

College of Engineering, Department of Computer Science

Fuhua Cheng, Professor  
Tel. (606) 257-6760  
Fax. (606) 323-1971

763B Anderson Hall  
Lexington, Kentucky 40506-0046  
Email. cheng@cs.engr.uky.edu

August 28, 2007

Professor Thambipillai Srikanthan, Chair  
School Review Committee for Promotion and Tenure  
School of Computer Engineering  
College of Engineering  
Nanyang Technological University  
Block N4, Nanyang Avenue  
Singapore 639798

Dear Prof. Srikanthan:

This is a letter in support of promoting Dr. Jianmin Zheng to associate professor with tenure in the School of Computer Engineering at the Nanyang Technological University.

I have only one comment: "This is an obvious case. Promote him." My justification follows.

Dr. Zheng's main research area is "subdivision surfaces". He has many important publications in this area, including three SIGGRAPH papers. This record alone is enough for anyone to be promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at any major university in the United States. By promoting him, you get to keep a world class researcher in geometric modeling and graphics.

I don't know much about Dr. Zheng's teaching and service. But by looking at his CV, I have the impression that he is doing above average in these areas.

His funding record is not that impressive (especially for someone with his research achievement). But this has something to do with his long visiting status at Brigham Young University (as a visiting scholar, you can not be included as a PI or Co-PI in an NSF grant). If those six years are not considered, I think his funding record is okay.

In summary, I think Nanyang Technological University is blessed to to have a faculty member like Dr. Zheng. You should do everything possible to keep him and I wholeheartedly support promoting him to associate professor with tenure in your School.

Sincerely,

Fuhua (Frank) Cheng