



THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA
AT
CHAPEL HILL

Sue E. Goodman
Professor of Mathematics
(919) 962-962-7025
(919) 962-2568 FAX
e-mail: seg@email.unc.edu

Department of Mathematics
College of Arts and Sciences
Campus Box 3250, Phillips Hall
Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3250
<http://www.math.unc.edu>

October 21, 2005

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FOR NECMETTIN YILDIRIM

Necmettin Yildirim has asked that I address his teaching. He is currently completing a postdoctoral fellowship with Tim Elston at Chapel Hill. In his time here, he has taught a section of first semester calculus (a course which I supervised) and our applied linear algebra course. He has also taught several freshman/sophomore level classes at other institutions.

I observed his linear algebra class last year. He is a good instructor, well prepared, lecturing at a level appropriate for the students, with plenty of well-chosen examples to illustrate the ideas. In fact, two of my advisees in another section of the same course expressed a desire to switch to his section after talking with some of his students. Although he has an accent, he speaks slowly and distinctly and has a remarkably clear handwriting with excellent board use. His command of English, including colloquialisms, is excellent. Students seemed to have no difficulty understanding him, and he answered their questions appropriately. He ended the class with a nice discussion of drawing phase portraits of some discrete dynamical systems. His student evaluations in this course were excellent, with 15 of 16 respondents giving him one of the top two scores on a summary question about overall effectiveness of the instructor.

Although I did not directly observe his calculus class, all reports indicate the class went well. His student evaluations indicate that students found him challenging, but fair and willing to give individual help. They rated him highly on enthusiasm, concern for and respect for students. Necmettin is a very personable and likable colleague, and I am confident that he will be an asset to your teaching staff.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sue E. Goodman", written over a horizontal line.

Sue E. Goodman
Professor of Mathematics
Bank of America Distinguished Term Professor