

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS

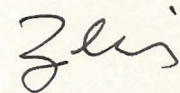
June 25, 2005

Jianqing Fan, Director
Center for Statistical Research
Academy of Mathematics and Systems Science
The Chinese Academy of Sciences
Beijing 100080
P.R. China

Dear Professor Fan:

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on the opening of the “Center for Statistical Research” in the Academy of Mathematics and Systems Science of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. AMSS has been a major force in statistical research and education in China. It has gathered and produced most prominent statisticians throughout its history. The new Center will undoubtedly be the additional and important new mechanism for greater potential and achievement.

Sincerely yours



Zhiliang Ying

Professor and Co-Chair