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To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Haonan Lu, and I am an Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering at SUNY Buffalo (UB). This letter expresses my strong recommendation for Ms. Dinalben Dholiya's academic excellence, research ability, and leadership skills. Dinalben took my CSE 486/586 Distributed Systems course in Fall 2023. The course covered in depth the major topics in distributed systems, e.g., RPCs, consistency, distributed transactions, and fault tolerance. The course included four programming assignments that were adapted from the programming projects of MIT 6.824 Distributed Systems. The expected learning outcomes were to gain a concrete understanding of the principles and techniques behind modern distributed systems and gain experience in implementing complex distributed protocols. It was one of the most challenging courses offered by the Computer Science program at UB. While, as a dual-listed course, it was particularly challenging for undergrads, Dinalben did excellent and was one of the top students.

Dinalben is enthusiastic about research. For instance, she has been working on a research project that designs a framework to automatically evaluate system prototypes, under my supervision, for two semesters. This project requires strong programming skills, a deep understanding of systems design principles, evaluation methods, and good research practice. Dinalben is able to finish tasks with consistently high quality, actively participate in discussions, and effectively collaborate with team members (e.g., Ph.D. and MS students). I am impressed by Dinalben's learning abilities, research skills, and leadership skills that make her an invaluable part of our research team, and I firmly believe Dinalben will undoubtedly excel in the remaining of her studies at UB.

Sincerely,

Haonan Lu

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June 28, 2024

To whom it may concern,

I'm writing to provide reference for exemplifying Ms. Dinalben Dholiya's academic excellence. As for myself, my name is Zhuoyue Zhao, an assistant professor at Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University at Buffalo. Dinalben has been contributing to a research project that Prof. Haonan Lu and I supervise, so I have first-hand knowledge of her capabilities in research.

Dinalben joined our project team in May 2024. The project aims to design a system framework for reproducing distributed storage performance evaluation results across academic prototypes, and open-source/commercial systems. She learned how to build, configure and set up test environments in our framework within the first two weeks, which demonstrates her good understanding of distributed storage systems learned from her previous course CSE 486 Distributed Systems, as well as her quick learning capabilities and engineering skills. She has also been working on designing an automated and generalized script for plotting experimental results using matplotlib. So far, she has made good progress by reproducing figures from published papers, which further demonstrates her programming and research skills.

Although I have only interacted Dinalben for a very short amount of time, I am convinced that she has good potentials in her future academic endeavor through her observed good research skills and learning skills. Please feel free to let me know if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

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