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The Admissions Panel

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing this reference letter at the request of Prashant Deshpande, who is an alumnus of the first year of the PhD program in International Management Studies at The University of Texas at Dallas. He and I interacted during his time at our university because he showed interest in Computational Organization Theory, an area where I have also been working. Prashant was an intelligent student with a solid quantitative background. He finished his first year in our PhD program with a 3.29 GPA (out of 4). It was perhaps because of the condition of his parents' health back home, Prashant was not able to engage with the academic discourse or participate in research activities as well as we had anticipated. As a result, the faculty felt that it best to let him leave so he could focus on personal matters.

A few days back Prashant broached the topic of doing a PhD in your program. I have gone through his research proposal, resume, and the working proposal and find promise. I can see that he has grown to be more matured, more focused, and more motivated. These, coupled with his strong analytical skills and extensive academic experience, should help him thrive in your PhD program.

Consequently, I strongly support his application for doctoral training and recommend his candidature at your esteemed university. I hope my reference will be helpful in your consideration. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,



Zhiang “John” Lin
Professor