The Admissions Team,

University of the West of England, Bristol.

Dear Admissions Team,

This acts to introduce to you Timothy Ongaba who is interested in a full-time PhD "The role of gut microbiota in regulating tumour cell metabolism and malignant progression" at the University of the West of England, Bristol.

I have known Timothy for over 4 years starting as an undergraduate and master's student where, he studied for a BSc. in Biomedical Laboratory Technology and Masters in Molecular Biology and Biotechnology.

As an undergraduate, I supervised the applicant to carry out a research project entitled: “Molecular docking study human STEAP2 for the development of new anti-prostate cancer chemotherapeutic candidates” from which he scored a B+ grade.

I believe this project prepared the applicant well for graduate training.I strongly believe that this course and project introduced the applicant to graduate training in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology. While with us, I would rank the applicant among the top 5% of his class cohort of 115.

Timothy has also achieved a commendation in his MSc in Biomedical Sciences from Nottingham Trent University further fortifying his foundation in life sciences. More to this is extra courses he attends to gain/ improve research skills and knowledge.

During the course of his academic jouney, Timothy has consistently demonstrated a keen interest in molecular biology taking up a research internship in a molecualr biology lab after his undergraduate degree. His consistent interest in cancer reseach is demonstrated in his research projects and as this projecct entails, fits his research interests. His MSc research project on "ENOX1, CCDC122 and LACC1 role in progression of prostate cancer" showcases his ability to reseach objetives in questions in cancer biology. This experience, combined with his undergraduate research on molecular docking studies for anti-prostate cancer therapeutics which I supervised, positions him well for the proposed PhD project on colorectal cancer and gut microbiota.

Timothy's practical and intellectual skills are particularly relevant to this project. He is proficient in eukaryotic cell culture, nucleic acid extraction, PCR, gel electrophoresis, and data analysis using various software tools judging by his work experience and research projets. His experience with bioinformatics tools and molecular docking studies will be valuable for the metabolomics and data analysis aspects of the project.

On a personal note, Timothy is very hardworking, self-motivated, but most of all committed to a career in translational cancer research. He has a great desire for academic growth and this opportunity will go a long way in assisting him achieve her career goals.

It is on the above background that I, without any reservation, strongly recommend Timothy for admission to this PhD at University of the West of England.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.

Sincerely,

Dr Magambo Phillip Kimuda (PhD),

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