U.S. Department of Homeland Security
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

RE: Dr.

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing this letter on behalf of Dr. for the purpose of qualifying him as an Outstanding Researcher for his U.S. permanent residency application. I am providing this recommendation based on my qualifications and expertise in the field of computer networks and distributed systems as well as my familiarity with Dr. researches as his thesis advisor.

I am an Associate Professor at the Computer Science Department of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. I have been working in the field of computer networking, multimedia, and distributed systems for more than 15 years. I have authored and co-authored more than 200 papers. I am the co-author of "Multimedia: Computing, Communications and Applications," a senior undergraduate and graduate-level textbook widely used by over 100 universities in the U.S. I was the recipient of the National Science Foundation's CAREER award in 1996 and the IEEE Communication Society Leonard Abraham Award in 2000. I am the editor-in-chief of the ACM/Springer Multimedia Systems Journal, and have served on the editorial boards for a number of journals, including IEEE Transactions on Multimedia, Elsevier Computer Networks Journal, and Kluwer Journal on Multimedia Applications and Tools. I have been a guest-editor for the Kluwer Computer Communications Journal and an associated editor of the ACM Computer Communication Reviews Journal. I have served as a program chair or co-chair and a member of the program committee for over 30 international conferences and workshops. Given my qualifications in the field, I can say with confidence that Dr. has made original and significant contributions in mobile ad hoc networks that have received international recognition.

Dr. joined my research group in June 2000 as a Ph.D. student and Research Assistant. During his Ph.D. study, he has conducted basic research in mobile ad hoc networks through research funds provided by the Office of Naval Research (ONR)'s Multidisciplinary University Research Initiative. He received his Ph.D. degree in October 2004.

Among all the Ph.D. students I have had during the past ten years, Dr. is one of the most outstanding and successful. I would definitely rank him as among the top 10% Ph.D. graduates in our department (which is consistently rated as the top five Computer Science program in the nation by U.S. News). This is true by all criteria one may apply including:

- He has authored and co-authored six articles in peer-reviewed international journals, one book chapter, and nine papers in peer-reviewed international conferences and workshops. Dr. papers were accepted by some of the most selective and prestigious international conferences in the field, such as the 21st Annual Joint Conference of the IEEE Computer and Communications Societies (INFOCOM 2002) at New York City, and the 24th IEEE International Conference on Distributed Computing Systems (ICDCS 2004) at Tokyo, Japan, the IEEE Wireless Communications and Networking Conference (WCNC 2004) at Atlanta, Georgia, and the IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC 2003) at Anchorage, Alaska. These conferences attracted first-class researchers from around the world and had an acceptance rate ranging from 17% to 30%. The journals and conference proceedings are widely recognized by and circulated within the international research community.

- He proposed location-guided tree (LGT) construction algorithms for small group multicast, which will enable people to efficiently exchange messages as a group while moving and using hand-held computers. This proposal, for example, can be implemented in a scenario of emergency rescue where a group of rescuers can effectively communicate with each other. This proposal was surveyed in detail in "Multicast over wireless mobile ad hoc networks: present and future directions," an article published in IEEE Network Magazine, 17(1), Jan.-Feb. 2003. It was also discussed in detail in an article entitled "Prioritized overlay multicast in mobile ad hoc environments" published in IEEE Computer Magazine, 37(2), Feb. 2004. Both magazines are widely circulated and highly visible in the international research community. Recently, Dr. follow-up research on this topic has been accepted to the International Journal of Wireless and Mobile Computing, Inderscience Publishers, Geneva, Switzerland.

- He conducted pilot research on several important mechanisms in ad hoc networking, including an incentive mechanism to enable packet forwarding, a rate-based explicit flow control scheme, and a mechanism to improve TCP performance. By applying these research results, network communication between mobile users will have substantially improved quality, speed, and efficiency.

- His work has been widely cited by independent researchers from around the world, including 14 journal articles and 31 international conferences and workshop papers.

- He has served as paper reviewer for over 15 international journals and over 25 international conferences, including the very prestigious journals such as IEEE Transactions on Networking and IEEE Transactions on Multimedia;

- He has given research presentations at several international conferences, and demonstrated his research results in the Research Funding Review Meetings at Cornell University to a team of researchers from the Office of Naval Research and the National Science Foundation for three consecutive years (2001-2003).

The above has provided abundant evidences that Dr. has made many original research contributions in the field of mobile ad hoc networking that have been widely recognized by the international research community. It is on the basis of Dr. above-mentioned achievements that I very strongly support his qualification as an outstanding researcher in connection with his U.S. permanent residency application.

Sincerely,

Klara Nahrstedt

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