

Department of Computer Science
221 Hayes Hall
Bowling Green, Ohio 43403
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May 8, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am very happy to recommend Avisha Lad for an academic position. I know Ms. Lad from her time as a graduate student at Bowling Green State University pursuing a Master of Science in Computer Science with a specialization in Software Engineering. I had the pleasure of having Ms. Lad in three of my classes: Research Methods in Computer Science, Software Testing and Quality Assurance, and Advanced Software Engineering. In addition, Ms. Lad has also worked for me as a teaching assistant. As such, I can confidently say that Ms. Lad is a highly dedicated and bright individual who excels at whatever task she has been assigned.

Ms. Lad performed exceptionally well, not only in my classes but in our Master's program as a whole. In my classes, she was very diligent in understanding the course material and assignments, often asking me to meet with her to understand the material and assignments. As such, she gained a deeper understanding of the material and performed extremely well. Her drive for knowledge is noteworthy and commendable.

Software Testing and Quality Assurance, in particular, consisted not only of black-box testing, white-box testing, test-driven development, mocking, etc., but also required the students to apply the testing techniques to real problems using modern development tools. For example, students were required to use a version control system (i.e., Git), a build system (i.e., CMake), and use testing frameworks (e.g., CppUnit and Boost.Test). From this, I can attest that Ms. Lad has intimate knowledge and ability in software development/engineering.

Research Methods in Computer Science and Advanced Software Engineering (a seminar course) are both courses that require students to make multiple oral presentations and write term project papers. In both classes, Ms. Lad demonstrated outstanding oral and written communication skills.

As a teaching assistant, unlike with other teaching assistants, I did not have to review the grading for accuracy or consistency. I had the utmost confidence in the work Ms. Lad performed. For example, in Introduction to Software Engineering, after explaining an assignment and how I wanted it graded, she would come back with clarifications to make sure that the assignment got graded exactly how I intended it to be graded. Afterwards, the assignment was graded quickly and to my satisfaction.

In conclusion, Ms. Lad is more than qualified for the position, and I am positive that Ms. Lad will be an outstanding teacher. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael John Decker". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Michael" and "John" stacked above "Decker".

Michael J. Decker, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Computer Science
Bowling Green State University