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RE: Recommendation Letter of Angela Hui-Xin Yang

Dear Hiring Manager,

It is with great delight that I recommend Angela Hui-Xin Yang for admission to your internship program. I had the pleasure of supervising Angela's work during her summer internship in Dr. Thomas Vondriska's lab. Angela is a perceptive, sharp, quick individual with a high aptitude for science. I noticed Angela's exceptional character at our first meeting. After I described the outline of my project, her questions tackled the same concerns that the expert reviewers of our last manuscript had raised. Impressed with her creativity and enthusiasm, I recruited her to work on my research. I have supervised graduate and undergraduate students for the last eight years at UCLA and I would rank Angela in the top 5% in terms of her willingness to learn, research acumen and problem-solving abilities.

During her time in our lab, Angela worked with me on the isolation of adult mouse cardiomyocytes (the contractile cells that pump the heart) to perform complicated genomics experiments (including RNAseq and Hi-C). Her keen ability to independently decipher literature and generate meaningful hypotheses drove her to develop her own parallel project to chemically induce spontaneous beating in isolated cardiomyocytes. Angela's commitment to the project was so strong that after receiving the sequencing data from our experiments, she convinced her parents and Dr. Vondriska to extend her internship and participate in the big data analysis. Angela pulled her own weight on the project and volunteered to help others in the lab. This attitude gained the respect and appreciation of the group. Her work ethic equaled that of any Ph.D. candidate or postdoc in the lab, as evidenced by the long hours she worked alongside us. After she finished her internship, Angela confessed that her mother, who was driving her back home, was getting upset daily because she was never on time due to her eagerness to get the job done in the lab.

Angela's confidence and creative mind especially impressed me during lab meetings. These sessions are intense and intimidating for new students, but Angela never shied away from asking

thought provoking questions and participating in the discussion. Her contribution to these meetings is so valued by the lab that she continues joining the sessions via videoconference.

Angela is clearly one of the best students I have worked with during my research career, and I think she would be an outstanding asset to your program. Her endless curiosity, combined with her willingness to work hard, leads me to believe there will be no limit to her growth and achievements in college and beyond. I give her my highest recommendation.

Sincerely,

Manuel Rosa Garrido