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Graduate program committee

Dear colleagues,

I am writing to support Cody Petrie's summer fellowship application. Cody completed a research rotation with me in the fall where he learned and applied variational and diffusion Monte Carlo methods. I encouraged him to explore other interesting physics for his second research rotation, but I agreed to supervise his summer research on a topic relating to my NSF grant on quantum Monte Carlo methods for nuclei if that is what he decided he would like to do.

I was pleased when Cody told me this spring that he would like to do research with me on these topics this summer. We have discussed several possible topics. One that I believe he can complete this summer is to improve our variational trial wave functions for nuclei to include additional pair wise operator correlations. From his work in the core classes, and his work on the research rotation, I am convinced that Cody has the tools and discipline needed to complete this task and to become actively involved in many other aspects of the research.

My NSF grant can supplement the fellowship up to the full amount of summer support if necessary. I would prefer a 50-50 split if possible.

Please contact me if you require additional information.

Sincerely Yours

Prof. Kevin E. Schmidt