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9/26/2024

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to write this letter of recommendation for Dhruba Paul, who has demonstrated remarkable teaching skills, technical expertise, and a strong commitment to student success during his time volunteering with the Microsoft TEALS program. Dhruba successfully balanced his roles as a Teaching Assistant and Co-Instructor, providing invaluable support and leadership throughout the semester.

Dhruba led about 50% of the course lectures, integrating well-organized lecture slides, whiteboard illustrations, and hands-on coding sessions that made complex topics more accessible to students. His ability to simplify challenging concepts while maintaining student engagement was exceptional. Additionally, Dhruba provided individualized support, meeting with approximately a third of the students during each session to guide them through project planning and implementation while offering career mentorship.

One of Dhruba's most innovative contributions was his creation of an LLM-powered Discord Teaching Assistant bot, leveraging Retrieval Augmented Generation (RAG) technology to enhance student engagement. He personally invested in Google Cloud Platform (GCP) credits to host this service from December to May, demonstrating his commitment to providing consistent, round-the-clock support for students. This initiative not only supported students outside of class hours but also enriched their learning experience in a meaningful way.

Dhruba also ensured timely communication and problem resolution, responding to student questions within six hours through Google Classroom comments and a dedicated Discord server that he set up specifically for the class. His proactive communication ensured that students always had the resources they needed to succeed.

Furthermore, Dhruba used interactive class surveys and assessment tools to continually adapt his instruction to better suit the needs of his students. His thoughtful and reflective approach to teaching underscored his dedication to creating a positive and personalized learning environment for each student.

In short, Dhruba Paul is a highly motivated, innovative, and caring individual who goes above and beyond to support his students. His leadership, technical expertise, and commitment to student success will be invaluable to any organization or educational program.

If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me at kahina.holmes@gmail.com or (708)714-0838.

Sincerely,
Kahina Cargile