

Lyon, December 23 2014

Subject: Reference letter for Dr. Samir AMIR

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Dr. Samir Amir for two years. I am pleased to be able to write a reference letter for him.

I am full Professor in Computer Sciences at the University Lyon 1. I received my PhD degree in computer sciences from INSA (National Institute of Applied Sciences), France, in 1991. In 1997, I joined the theoretical Computer Science laboratory at RWTH Aachen, Germany for 14 months, and a year later I joined the Indiana Center for Database Systems (ICDS), USA, for one year. I was the (1) Founder and Leader of the Database, Knowledge Representation and Reasoning group (2002-2008) of the Lyon Research Center for Images and Information Systems (<http://liris.cnrs.fr/>), (2) leader of Data, Knowledge and Services research department (January 2008-January 2014, 7 research teams involving 40 researchers and more than 50 PhD students), and (3) Director of Lyon Center for High Education (CIES de Lyon, from 2006 to 2011). From January 2009 I am the Deputy Director of the Lyon Research Center for Images and Information systems (141 researchers and 120 PhD students). I was (2004-2007) the director of the master by research program of Lyon (University Lyon 1, University Lyon 2, INSA Lyon, ENS Lyon and ECL). I was the vice-president of the selection committee in computer sciences of the University Lyon 1 (2004-2008). I am also a member of the national research committee (2007-2015, <http://cnu27.iut2.upmf-grenoble.fr/>). I was the vice-chair of IFIP WG 2.6. (2005-2010). I served more than 70 international conferences/workshops in the areas of information and knowledge systems as either a program committee chair or a program committee member. I was the co-organizing chair of VLDB 2009 conference, the general co-chair of ICSOC 2009 conference, PC co-chair of IEEE/ACM/WIC WI-IAT 2010, general co-chair of IEEE/WIC/ACM WI-IAT 2011, BPM 2011 and ICSOC 2011; PC co-chair of FQAS 2004, PC co-chair of ISMIS 2005 and PC co-chair of CoopIS 2005. I was nominated (for three years, 2013-2016) as a member of the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC, [http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Committees-Comites/ComputerScience-SciencesInformatiques\\_eng.asp](http://www.nserc-crsng.gc.ca/NSERC-CRSNG/Committees-Comites/ComputerScience-SciencesInformatiques_eng.asp)). Lately, I have been elected as the Director of the Lyon Research Center for Images and Information systems for the period 2015-2020. My research areas include query languages for information systems, semantic web, Web services, multimedia databases and data security. I have authored over 100 technical papers and edited over 10 proceedings and journal special issues.

Dr. Samir Amir is a researcher with a solid grounding and a broad experience in the areas that are shaping the future, such as Semantic Web, multimedia databases, ontology modeling & reasoning and data integration. He has the ability to perform sophisticated implementations and conduct effective experiments. During the intense days of work in our laboratory, I had the opportunity to appreciate his capability of successfully interacting and cooperating with research staff, and his strong motivation to disseminate knowledge. Dr. Samir Amir is always willing to help when asked to contribute and he is a very hard working and cooperative individual. Based on his research background, I believe he has the potential to make valuable contributions to his academic institution as also to his research community.

To summarize, I recommend him strongly as a colleague and will go further to say that he will have no problem in successfully completing his work in competitive research institute.

If I can provide any further details, please do not hesitate to contact me at the coordinates given below.

Prof. Mohand-Said Hacid

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