Re: 2015 MIT CONVERGE

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

Applicant: Mr. Erick Garcia

Dear Sir or Madam:

My name is Natalia Villanueva Rosales and I am an Assistant Professor at the Department of Computer Science and also a Co-PI of the Cyber-ShARE Center of Excellence at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). It is my pleasure to write this letter to support the application of Mr. Erick Garcia for the 2015 MIT CONVERGE.

I have known Mr. Garcia for a period of eight months based on academic and employment relationship. I hired him as a Research Assistant in Fall 2014 and he was also a student in a Database Management course. Due to the excellent performance and exceptional work of Mr. Garcia, I re-hired him during spring 2015 and I plan to hire him during the fall semester. Mr. Garcia was in charge of creating a database and a web-interface to implement "A dynamic approach for annotating research efforts", to facilitate the publishing and retrieval for a resources related to the iLink research group.

Mr. Garcia is an outstanding student; I would classify him in the top 10% of my students. He carried out an excellent course work. As an undergraduate research assistant, he has demonstrated great skills to analyze and solve problems. He has contributed to the creation of cyberinfrastructure for managing research-related data. He has reached the milestones that were defined at the beginning of the term for his project, demonstrating great independence, initiative and the capability of delivering high quality products. Mr. Garcia is committed to his job and his studies.

I am certain that Mr. Garcia will benefit from this great opportunity. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need further information.

Sincerely,

Natalia Villanueva Rosales, PhD.

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