To whomsoever it may concern

Mr. Goutham Rajesh, a third-year student of the Information Technology Department at Government Engineering College Barton Hill, Thiruvananthapuram , is a zealous IEEE volunteer who is passionate about exploring more about IEEE and leveraging the organization to its best along with its amelioration. During my tenure as Student Activities Chair of IEEE Kerala Section, I could witness the outstanding volunteering potential possessed by Mr. Goutham Rajesh as a Student Leader of IEEE SB GECBH, DevOps Intern of IEEE Kerala Section and as an active volunteer at various OUs of IEEE.

I have personally witnessed exemplary performance by Goutham as a DevOps Intern of Interns Team - IEEE Kerala Section. He has undertaken several leadership roles within the team which paved the way for the team's success in achieving numerous accolades. He was the core coordinator for CODIGO - A bridge course to programming which was conducted by IEEE Kerala Section with funding support from IEEE R10 Educational Activities Committee. In addition, he has made tireless contributions as a team leader for the INSIGHTER application, a comprehensive web portal that serves as a centralized platform for students seeking information on Scholarship, Mentoring, and Volunteer programs in and out of IEEE. Furthermore, he has played an active role in ensuring the seamless execution of WIE ILS 2022 and INDICON 2022 hosted by IEEE Kerala Section. Throughout his tenure as a DevOps Intern, he shouldered numerous responsibilities for min.lc, IKS MinT, MinT Formz, and MinT MIMo, all of which he executed with great success.

He has served as the Vice Chair of IEEE SB GEC Barton Hill in the year 2022, and during his tenure the Student Branch has been recognised with 2 Global Awards (Regional Exemplary Student Branch Award and Darrel Chong Student Activity Award), 1 Regional Outstanding Student Branch Award and 3 India Council Individual Volunteer Awards. He steered the documentation process for the awards and I was fortunate enough to endorse them for the same. His contributions as a responsible leader helped more than 20 members of the Student Branch to secure leadership positions in IEEE Kerala Section. Furthermore, under Goutham's leadership, the Student Branch took the initiative to launch a Special Interest Group for Humanitarian Activities, with a focus on making a positive impact in the society.

Above all, Goutham has extensive volunteer experience and has consistently demonstrated his dedication to it through his various roles across different organizational units. Some of the responsibilities that I am aware of include:

1. Chair - IEEE Student Branch Government Engineering College, Barton Hill (2023)
2. Volunteer - IEEE Puzzlers Community, IEEE Collabratec (2023)
3. Marketing, Meetings and Conference, R&D/Technical Activities Committee Member - IEEE Smart Cities (2023)
4. Technical Coordinator, IEEE Travancore Hub - IEEE LINK, IEEE Kerala Section (2023)

Apart from his noteworthy volunteering activities, his leadership skills have had a significant impact on the student community. What sets him apart is that he accomplished all of these remarkable achievements while maintaining a decent CGPA of 7.98 out of 10. This makes me firmly believe that the Richard E. Merwin scholarship will provide a greater motivation for Goutham to continue his contributions with selflessness and utmost discipline. Thus, taking into consideration all his activities in all dimensions and his academic track, I wholeheartedly endorse him for this scholarship.

Dr. Gilesh M P
Vice Chair
IEEE Kerala Section

25 April 2023