DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS

From: Dr. Sumona Mondal, Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics, Clarkson University
To: Dr. Grabowski, Chair, Department of Computer Science, SUNY Potsdam
Re: Reappointment Letter for Dr. Supraja Gurajala, Department of Computer Science, SUNY Potsdam

Dear Prof. Grabowski,

It is my great pleasure to write in strong support of the reappointment of Dr. Supraja Gurajala in Computer Science Department, SUNY Potsdam.

Dr. Supraja Gurajala has been an outstanding collaborator for me since 2018. Supraja was an exemplary student in the Department of Computer Science, Clarkson University and graduated in August 2018. Our research interactions started in Spring 2018, a few months before she graduated, and made a great progress since then.

Supraja's main area of research is "social media sensing towards accurate prediction and analysis of events using big data from online networks". This is an important research area and the need for more research is constantly increasing. She has accomplished a number of publications during her graduate study and some of them received a high readership. Working closely with Supraja during her doctoral research, and her perfectionist attitude towards work was very much apparent. Since her graduation, she has been keeping an active research profile through presentations of her work in national and international conferences. Prof. Gurajala's resume details her extensive past and current educational and professional activities.

An exciting development of our collaborative interaction is working in an interdisciplinary research project on air quality monitoring. This project has started in collaboration with Prof. Suresh Dhaniyala, a distinguished figure in the field of aerosol science, and aims to predict air quality information at a high precision out of noisy data received from multiple resources such as low-cost sensors, satellite, and social media.

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We, along with a few graduate and undergraduate students are focusing on building theoretical models to integrate different data resources to be able to achieve predictive accuracy comparable to a dedicated, expensive air quality monitoring stations. We are exploring the statistical decision-making tools and data mining approaches that will be suitable for this problem. Our group made advancement in this project and presented at the 13th Probability and Statistics Day at UMBC, Baltimore, USA in April 2019. The results were also presented at the 3rd Annual Spring Research and Project Showcase (RAPS) at Clarkson University, NY, USA in April 2019. We wanted to make significant progress toward building strong team consisting of graduate and undergraduate students and recognized that appropriate training and skill development, especially in the advanced data analysis techniques would be the key factor to our future research productivity. In this direction, we organized few workshops at Clarkson University last year. Supraja took part in the "Bayesian Decision-making and Applications" workshop conducted in May, 2019. In addition, we participated with teams of "R" and "Python" users in the "*Clarkson – SRIHR-ICMR Indo-US Training Workshop on Low-Cost Air Quality Sensors and Related Data Analytics*" (August 2019, conducted by Prof. Suresh Dhaniyala) to advance our knowledge in the air quality data analysis.

In summary, I feel Supraja is one of those individuals who are gifted in working across the boundary of a discipline and thus serves as an excellent ambassador for a program. She has an easy-going demeanor, which in my opinion, is an essential personality trait for work on multidisciplinary research teams. I look forward to hear more success stories of her in the near future and whole-heartedly recommend her reappointment for her current position.

Please, feel free to contact me for any additional information, if needed.

Yours sincerely,

Sumona Mondal.

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