December 28, 2009

Attn: Professor Elena Gallo
University of Michigan
Department of Astronomy

Dear Prof. Gallo:

Please accept the attached application for your advertised postdoctoral position. A major part of my past and on-going research has focused on better understanding feedback from active galactic nuclei (AGN). As such, I am interested in the formation and evolution of supermassive black holes, the accretion modes which fuel AGN activity, and how AGN interact with, and alter, their host environment.

I feel UM is an excellent fit for me, and the UM research environment will benefit from my addition. My expertise in radio and X-ray astronomy – in addition to experience with infrared, optical, and UV analysis – ideally suits me for your advertised position. I am also eager to expand my research into theoretical modeling, specifically to consolidate our understanding of radio galaxies and their environments into a unified model which describes isolated FR-Is through FR-IIs in dense clusters. The UM high-energy astrophysics group is an excellent place to pursue this goal.

Along with this letter are my CV, a list of publications, and a brief summary of my research interests. Letters of recommendation from Megan Donahue, Brian McNamara, and Mark Voit should arrive under separate cover. Please do not hesitate to contact me if there is any further information I can provide as you review my application.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kenneth W. Cavagnolo
University of Waterloo