



Department of Astronomy

October 31, 2010

Jansky Fellow Selection Committee
National Radio Astronomy Observatory

Dear Colleagues:

I write in regard to the proposal by **Dr. Ken Cavagnolo** for a Jansky Fellowship to be hosted in the Department of Astronomy at the University of Maryland. Professor Chris Reynolds has agreed to serve as his scientific mentor at the University of Maryland. He and I have read and approved his proposal. Should he be offered the fellowship, we would be delighted to provide the facilities and support needed to enable the research activities described in his proposal.

As noted in Dr. Cavagnolo's proposal, there is considerable expertise at Maryland in related areas. He would work closely with Prof. Chris Reynolds, who has overlapping interests. We have recently formed the Joint Space-Sciences Institute (JSI); its first focus is high-energy astrophysics and indeed the first JSI hire was Prof. Richard Mushotzky, one of the most prolific high-energy astronomers in the world and noted expert on clusters of galaxies. Other scientists associated with Maryland with very close interests include Tamar Bogdanovic, Sylvain Veilleux, and Keith Arnaud. He would also connect with our Center for Theory and Computation (CTC) is a highly interactive group of faculty, postdocs, and students; Dr. Cavagnolo would have access to the Beowulf cluster operated by the group.

Also, Neal Miller (former Jansky Fellow) is on our staff and is expert in VLA studies of clusters. In addition, the faculty and staff of our Laboratory for Millimeter-wave Astronomy has considerable expertise in radio interferometry. Finally, staff at NRL successfully supervise our graduate students, and so I am confident that Dr. Cavagnolo would be able to work closely with the NRL scientists identified in his proposal, Dr. Tracy Clarke and Dr. Namir Kassim.

In summary, Dr. Cavagnolo's research program closely aligns with ongoing efforts in our astronomy department. We would be happy to host him at Maryland and mentor his program.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Stuart Vogel".

Stuart Vogel
Professor & Chair
Department of Astronomy

