

Luca Pernié

Cover Letter

Carnegie Mellon University

Assistant professor in experimental high energy physics

October 20, 2017

To whom it may concern:

I am currently pursuing a postdoctoral fellow at Texas A&M University, and I would like to apply for the assistant professor position at Carnegie Mellon University. This application follows the path I established for myself several years ago, and I now believe it is the right time to move forward in my career.

My adventure in high energy physics started back in 2011, when I first arrived at CERN in order to complete my master's degree thesis about the high mass search for the Higgs boson in the $h \rightarrow WW \rightarrow \nu jj$ final state. With CERN it has been love at first sight. Since then, I always been extremely active in the CMS collaboration, and I always tried to improve myself with the aspiration to be, one day, like the professors that were representing my role model at the time.

I always kept contributing to the CMS research plan, moving my area expertise from Standard Model and Higgs searches, to more exotic signatures; and from the electromagnetic calorimeter, to the muon system, up to managing conditions for the whole CMS experiment.

Every time I changed my research area, I always started contributing very quickly. I believe the skill that most helped me out during these years has been the ability to easily manage multiple activities in parallel. Also, it has been crucial the ability to make simple every collaboration, and to effectively communicate with the people around me. In this way I have been able to achieve results in several projects at the same time, employing my time and the manpower around me in the most efficient way. This has been an ability that I ameliorate when I started to coordinate groups of graduate students and postdocs.

After these first years as a postdoc, I feel it is time to face a new challenge. I always loved the world related to the academia. In the past years I have not been only active in research, but also in the Texas A&M University dynamic environment. I organized seminars for the high energy experimental, astrophysics and phenomenology community, which led to very productive discussions (and sometimes collaborations) among experts in different area of research. I also organized outreach activities for students and for larger public, like the LHC virtual tour, that got an enormous success in the Texas A&M Physics and Engineering festival, or the Machine Learning in Science workshop (foreseen in November 2017).

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I grew up inside the academia, and I will do whatever it is needed to succeed in my work and future challenges; as I already did in the past.

For all these reasons I believe I am a good candidate for this position, and you will not regret to give me this opportunity.

Looking forward to hearing from you soon,

Luca Pernié

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