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To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to provide you with this letter recommending Mr. Robert McCann for a Software Engineer position. I have known Mr. McCann for the past two years, having first hired him as an intern during my time as a post-doctoral researcher at the Ohio State University's Byrd Polar Research Center in the summer of 2010. Mr. McCann worked in the development and optimization of a hydrodynamic model that was used in the mathematical inversion of satellite observations to estimate river discharge and bathymetry. The intern position was funded by a NASA grant. Mr. McCann's duties involved the translation of Matlab code to C++ and development of a Python interface, as well as performing profiling and optimization of the code. The contributions of Mr. McCann to the project were invaluable and led to an increase in overall efficiency. Additionally, Mr. McCann expressed his desire to work on other projects that involved software engineering tasks. In fact he helped me conceptualize an alternative approach for the estimation problem at hand, namely genetic algorithms.

I was so impressed by Mr. McCann's expertise (especially for an undergraduate student), ability to adapt to research areas unfamiliar to him, and work ethic that I offered him an opportunity to spend the summer of 2011 in Pasadena when I was hired as a Research Scientist at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. Mr. McCann was hired as an intern, with his position funded by the SWOT (Surface Water Ocean Topography) satellite mission project (a high-profile NASA-CNES collaborative effort). Mr. McCann worked as a software engineer in the development of the SWOT Instrument Simulator software. In particular, he optimized and cleaned a large part of the original codebase, developed regression tests, improved version control, and added serialization capabilities as well as a Python interface to the C++ code.

Despite my admittedly short career I have worked with numerous researchers and I firmly believe that Mr. McCann's expertise and personality would be perfect for this position. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Konstantinos Andreadis', written in a cursive style.

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