Peter James Bui

Search Committee February 21, 2015
Department of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Notre Dame

Dear Search Committee:

I am writing to apply for the Computer Science and Engineering teaching faculty position announced recently on the Interfolio website. As a recent graduate of the Notre Dame Computer Science and Engineering program, I have spent the last three years as an Assistant Professor of Computer Science at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire. Given my teaching experience, research background, and familiarity with the department, I believe I am a strong candidate for the position at the University of Notre Dame.

The desire to mentor and inspire students in Computer Science is my primary motivation for pursuing a teaching career. As evidenced by my CV, I have a fair amount of teaching experience in a number of Computer Sciences courses such as Fundamentals of Computing, Data Structures, Computer Architecture, Logic Design, Programming Challenges, and Computer Graphics. At the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, I primarily teach courses such as Computer Systems, Computer Organization, and Unix Systems Programming along with introductory computing and programming courses to non-CS majors in languages such as C/C++ and Python. Given the diversity of courses I have taught and taken as a student, I am well-equipped to instruct a wide variety of classes in the Notre Dame Computer Science and Computer Engineering undergraduate programs.

Although I have taught a diverse set of Computer Science subjects, my doctoral research focused on constructing scalable distributed scientific workflows. For my dissertation, I investigated the effectiveness of applying traditional compiler techniques to generate distributed workflows and worked with scientists to build scientific applications that were executed on cluster and cloud environments. Since working at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire, my research interests have broadened and I now work with undergraduate students on projects involving topics such as web services, cloud computing, embedded systems, multimedia, and gaming. At Notre Dame, I would be interested in engaging students in research, independent study, and capstone projects. Moreover, I would be open to not only collaborating with students, but also look forward to the opportunity to work with colleagues within the department and in the wider university community on various scholarly activities.

As an alumnus of the department, I am extremely excited about the opportunity of contributing to the tradition of teaching excellence at the University of Notre Dame. Teaching at the University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire for the past three years has allowed me to grow as a teacher and an academic professional. During this time, I have developed my own courses, advised students, mentored undergraduate researchers, and participated in university recruitment, retention, and outreach activities. In applying for this position, I hope to bring these experiences and the insight I have gained from working at a teaching institution back to Notre Dame.

In closing, I would gladly welcome the opportunity to return to the University of Notre Dame as a professional teaching specialist in the Computer Science and Engineering department. I look forward to an opportunity to discuss this position with you soon. If you require any additional materials or information, please let me know and I would be happy to supply them.

Sincerely,