

Department of Computer Science & Engineering
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX

January 27, 2021

Dear Faculty Search Committee:

I am a computer science researcher in the [Center for Applied Scientific Computing](#) at [Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory](#) (LLNL). Over the past decade, my research contributions have spanned often disjoint and siloed areas of computer science and engineering, including applications, algorithms, middleware, and systems & architecture. I have had direct access to domain experts in multiple mission areas, as the research environment at LLNL is one in which technically diverse researchers join forces to tackle challenging national security mission problems. **I believe this experience gives me a unique perspective for the value of diverse multi-disciplinary teams and impact focused research.**

During my time at LLNL, I have had the opportunity to supervise over twenty student interns, primarily PhD students from domestic and international institutions. I thoroughly enjoy working with young bright students and like to think I have had a positive influence on their career directions. I have been invited to join two of my former interns' PhD committees as an external member (at the University of British Columbia and Dartmouth), and hired three former interns as Postdoctoral researchers. As I consider the next chapter of my career, teaching and bringing my experiences back into the classroom would be a fruitful and fulfilling opportunity.

Why Texas A&M? – Strategically, TAMU is an ideal location for national security focused researchers like myself. With the Corps/ROTC supplying fresh talent with an eye towards national service, to the Army Futures Command, to the new Multi-Program Research & Education Facility¹, TAMU is well positioned to be a leader in national security research and education for years to come. TAMU has built strong connections to both the DOE and DoD; these provide unique opportunities that today only exist at national laboratories and are truly unique for universities. With all this, TAMU could easily become a choice destination for military and civilian DoD personnel to obtain advanced degrees. **Given the opportunity, I will aim to increase the Computer Science & Engineering department's role in national security research and education, and see many opportunities for impact into the future.**

On a personal note, I am a third generation Aggie. My grandfather (Class of '52) attended Texas A.M.C. after WWII on the GI bill after returning from the Pacific. During his time as a student, my father (Class of '72) was born while the family lived in married student housing. I was Class of '03. During my years as an undergraduate, Bonfire fell when I was a freshman and 9/11 as a junior. I witnessed the strength of the rich Aggie traditions during times of adversity, and solidified friendships cherished for twenty years. I began working with Prof. Nancy Amato as an undergrad in the *USRG* program and continued working with Nancy as my Ph.D. thesis advisor. I met my wife, Dr. Olga Pearce, of fourteen years as a graduate student at A&M; Olga was a visiting A&M as a summer intern in the *CRA-WP DREU* program when we first met. In short, I have a deep connection to Aggieland; I cannot think of a better place to raise our two children.

Sincerely,

Roger Allan Pearce, Ph.D.

¹While this may have an intentionally obscure name, its significance cannot be overstated.

Roger Allan Pearce, Ph.D.

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