Question number **5.**

**What are the first words that come to mind to describe the applicant?**

Gifted, talented, has brilliant mathematical mind, has extraordinary ability to concentration achieving goals, hardworking, purposeful, responsible, positive.

* Question number **6.**

**Describe the quality of the applicant's intellect and hard work. Please comment on the student's originality of thought and ability to grasp difficult concepts. In what ways might you distinguish this student's academic performance from that of other able students?**

Nataliia Khotiaintseva is one of the most talented, intelligent, creative, and strong personalities I have ever met. She has made the best impression on me and other instructors. Nataliia can solve the most difficult math problems, find nonstandard attitudes and original solutions. She demonstrated high ability to concentrate, positive mood, confidence, hardworking and psychological strength. Nataliia is one of the best university students: she easily grasps difficult math concepts and demonstrates deep understanding of the subject. She has shown excellent performance not only on the math courses she studied but also on programming.

* Question number**7.**

**Are there unusual circumstances in the applicant's case (personal or academic) that you feel we should know?**

Nataliia is a multiple winner of the international math Olympiads. Her achievements are exceptionally high. Among the Ukraine IMO 2015 team (that won 2 gold, 3 silver and 1 bronze medals) Nataliia is the best by medal score: she has won gold medals twice at the EGMO (2014, 2015), gold medal in math at International Zhautykov Olympiad (2015), silver medal at the RMM (2015), silver medal at the IMO 2014, and finally, gold medal at the IMO 2015. She has a rare combination of bright intellectual strength with hardworking ability and determined fighting nature, of creativity with strong motivation and live interest in math.

With this, Nataliia is remarkably athletic. She is wonderful playing volleyball; she practices karate and likes all kind of sports. She also plays piano very well.

**If you find this form too restricting, please feel free to attach a separate letter here.**

I know Nataliia since 2013: I was a jury member of math contests and a team leader of the Ukraine national team at the EGMO 2014 and 2015, and an observer from Ukraine on the IMO 2014 and 2015. Since last September, I am a curator (group advisor) for the first year student group in Applied Mathematics in which Nataliia Khotiaintseva is studying since September 2015 in the University. As a curator, I contact with all the instructors of the group and know their positive opinion as well. I also know her by mutual Olympiad math activity; we meet as jury members of math contests and related matters.

Now, she volunteers much as a jury member of math contests and Olympiads. She is very diligent and responsible about her duties. Moreover, she works hard leading a weekly class of Olympiad math for high school students; she likes teaching and has deserved good responses already.

Nataliia is friendly and communicative. She appreciates group contests and teamwork, and never refuses her fellows in help. Nataliia enthusiastically participated in amateur student performances and Faculty social events. She tries to take a creative approach to everything she does. Nataliia was a driver of international inter-team communication during Olympiads and acquired friends from all over the world.

I rate Nataliia Khotiaintseva as an exceptionally strong candidate and recommend her for studying in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology enthusiastically. I have no doubt she will be a bright student and will greatly succeed in her future mathematical career.