**Message to Hiring Manager**

Dear Hiring Manager,

Currently a second-year PhD student in statistics, I am interested in developing methods informed by applied research. My current research project proposes a statistical model to find causal effects in spatial data, which can benefit environmental and climate research and, more broadly, any data with spatial correlation. As I start to think of real-world applications for my research, I have come to realize that I would like my future career to have positive impacts on the world, and I would like to be part of something larger than myself. As my career goals become clearer, I start exploring the various institutions I could work at as a statistician and realized that a place like Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory perfectly fits my personality, work style, values, and goals.

By summer 2024, I will have completed my coursework, including five core, fundamental statistical inference classes, three advanced theory and computation courses, and three electives. These classes give me a solid foundation to learn more advanced theory and methods. Besides knowledge in statistical inference, I have strong coding skills, mainly in R and Python. I do programming almost daily, and my research project requires me to build models from scratch, using only the most basic packages. I have also done data analysis projects that require me to do data cleaning, exploratory data analysis, and regression analysis using ready-made packages.

Outside statistics and coding, I have other relevant research skills, including writing, editing, presentation, and critical thinking, largely resulted from my previous academic training in musicology. Having spent nearly a decade studying musicology (2007–2016) and now working in statistics, I am confident that I can bring a wide range of skills to any team I am assigned to and to assist with various stages of research.

Even though I am eager to work with others side by side at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, with two children (aged 6 and 9), it is infeasible for me, both financially and logistically, to move across the country for a summer internship. I sincerely hope that the internship can be done remotely.

In short, I am interested in continuing working with Bayesian methods, causal inference, and spatial-temporal data, but I am also open to assist with any research at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. I am eager to learn from others and be part of a team that does meaningful and impactful research. I look forward to having a conversation with you on what I can contribute to Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory.

Sincerely,

Shih-Ni Prim