FUTURE OF DATA

Date: September 6, 2024

Re: Tejas Ghadge

Dear Madam or Sir,

I am writing this letter on behalf of Tejas Ghadge, who served, at our invitation, as a judge at the Future of Data Hackathon, a key event of the MidwestCon Conference. This hackathon, held from August 24, 2024, to September 5, 2024, at the 1819 Innovation Hub, University of Cincinnati, was designed to convene innovative minds in technology to create groundbreaking solutions under the theme of "building a better, more equitable future of data."

The hackathon was uniquely structured with tracks (Roots) in Software Development and Business/Creative, branches exploring AI, Blockchain, and Visualization, and specific themes (Leaves) such as Gaming, Security, Finance, and Social Issues. Participants were encouraged to leverage advanced technologies like Generative AI, Machine Learning, and Blockchain to solve real-world problems and foster a more inclusive digital landscape. Projects were assessed based on their technical execution, creativity, innovation, social impact, and real-world applicability.

Tejas Ghadge was tasked with judging projects in the Software Development track, where participants tackled diverse challenges from AI-driven healthcare solutions to innovative data visualization tools. Notable projects he reviewed, including "Safe Walking Path," "ExamCraft," "Fisheez," and "MediGreet: ER Welcome Bot," stood out for their inventive approaches and potential for societal impact. Some of these projects have since garnered attention for further development and interest from stakeholders in their respective sectors.

When selecting judges for this hackathon, we sought individuals with exceptional expertise, a solid track record in their field, and a deep understanding of both technical and business dimensions of technological innovation. Judges were

required to have experience in technology development, insight into emerging trends, and the capability to critically assess both the technical feasibility and broader impact of projects.

Tejas Ghadge matched these criteria perfectly. They have demonstrated considerable expertise in software engineering, product development, and entrepreneurship. Their diverse experience across several industries, including AI and machine learning, paired with a strong academic background made them an invaluable judge.

During the event, Tejas Ghadge reviewed over 61 projects, providing insightful and constructive feedback to participants. His evaluations were instrumental in helping teams refine their ideas and enhance their technical implementations. He was a highly regarded judge, respected by his peers and participants for his in-depth feedback, analytical thinking, and fair judgment. Alongside him were other esteemed judges, including the co-creator of Phi-3 (the first small language model), Vice Presidents of Fortune 500 companies, and partners at leading venture capital firms.

Tejas Ghadge was a superb judge, highly valued for his feedback, insight, and ultimate judgment. We would be honored to have him return as a judge should his schedule permit in the future.

If I can provide any further information about Tejas Ghadge and his contributions as a judge, I would be pleased to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Daniel Vennemeyer

Director, Future of Data Hackathon

Phone: 513-307-4006

E-mail: Daniel@disruptionnow.com

2900 Reading Rd,

Cincinnati, OH 45206