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Professor Y. M. Gupta
ISP/Applied Sciences Laboratory
Washington State University
100 Dairy Road, Room 202
Pullman, WA 99164-1120

Dr. Gupta

I just came across your advertised position for Computational Research Scientist at the Applied Sciences Laboratory. The provided description of ASL was very intriguing as it aligned very closely with my ideal combination of private industry and academia. Admittedly, I don't meet the experience criteria you are looking for (3 years of postdoctoral research and grant history), but I thought I could at least open up a dialog to see if there is some other position I might fit at ASL, perhaps as a postdoc. Your research environment sounds very similar to what I experienced through four summers working at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory where I worked on developing modern codes for simulating materials under extreme conditions. I should be completing my Ph.D. at the Institute for Computational Engineering and Science at the University of Texas next summer. ICES is an interdisciplinary research unit that teaches the mathematics, physical modeling, and computational know-how behind scientific computing. As such, I have a strong background in computational mechanics as a whole with a special emphasis on computational fluid dynamics. My Ph.D. experience has rounded out my knowledge of the mathematics behind numerical algorithms and the various techniques needed to develop stable methods for various types of physical phenomena. While I do not currently have grant writing experience, I believe this is something I could grow to excel at given some mentorship. It is important to me that my research brings ultimate benefit to society, and I pride myself on being able to communicate that benefit clearly and persuasively.

I recognize that I don't fit the advertised requirements but I would appreciate an opportunity to discuss alternative placements at ASL or the Institute for Shock Physics. I am also pursuing various other postdoctoral positions and industry jobs, but honestly, the environment and location of ASL appeal more than most of my current options. I am in candidacy and working on research full time at the moment, so my schedule is fairly open should you wish to chat.

Sincerely,

Truman E. Ellis