

January 19, 2005

To Whom It May Concern:

Dr. Boojala V.B. Reddy worked in my laboratory from October 1998 to June 2003, first as a Visiting Scientist and then as an Assistant Research Scientist. We published five peer-reviewed papers together in this period.

Dr. Reddy showed all the credentials needed to undertake an independent research career either in an academic setting or in industry. He proved to be an original thinker in establishing the notion of Conserved Key Amino Acid Positions (CKAAPs) as sites important to the protein folding process and has subsequently contributed to a database of such sites and to protein engineering studies centered around this notion. He started his own collaborations, notably with Prof. Maurice Montal in the Biology Department at UCSD, on the modeling of Voltage Gated Channels and wrote a successful grant to support this work. Finally, he taught classes for UCSD Extension in protein modeling and analysis and has mentored a number of students and post doctoral fellows in the laboratory in various ways. His prior experience with Sir Tom Blundell made him a sought after modeler in both our and other laboratories on campus.

In short, Dr. Reddy was a valuable contributor and it was time he advanced his career with either a more responsible position in industry or academia. He has developed some interesting ideas for the study of thermophilic versus mesophilic proteins. I have confidence he will secure his own independent funding. I would be pleased to provide more details needed for evaluation of a specific position as needed. I can be reached by email at pbourne@ucsd.edu or by phone at 858-534-8301.

Dr. Reddy was a valuable contributor to the laboratory, and I follow his career with interest.

Sincerely,

Philip E. Bourne PhD
Professor of Pharmacology, UCSD
Co-Director RCSB Protein Data Bank
Editor-in-Chief PLoS Computational Biology