

Biocomplexity Faculty Search  
c/o Theresa Dawson,  
Department of Physics  
Indiana University  
Swain West 117  
727 East 3rd Street  
Bloomington, IN 47405-7105

Dear Search Committee;

I am pleased to recommend Dr. Boojala Reddy for a position at Indiana University. I have known Dr. Reddy since he came to the Supercomputer Center in 1998. Although his direct supervisor was Dr. Philip Bourne, my lab and Dr. Bourne's shared a common area and our associates and employees were completely mixed: our labs shared a conference room and Dr. Reddy participated in our journal clubs, seminars, and other activities. Over the course of nearly six years, I had numerous discussions with Dr. Reddy and was able to observe his research presentations on many occasions. This gives me, I feel, a good basis to evaluate his abilities and potential as a scientist.

As you know from his CV and application materials, Dr. Reddy shows his greatest strength as a computational structural biologist. He has trained in some of the best labs in the world, most notably in Tom Blundell's lab at Birkbeck. His work at SDSC was integrated with that of the Protein Data Bank (PDB) the most important archive of three-dimensional structural information in the world. This excellent training background is reflected in a large number of publications for a person at his stage in his career. Many of these are in top journals such as *Biopolymers*, *Proteins*, and *Protein Engineering*. Dr. Reddy was an active contributor to research discussions and a helpful mentor to younger colleagues and students. I think he would be above normal in forming collaborative interactions both within and outside the department should you decide to hire him.

While in no way a requirement of his employment at SDSC, Dr. Reddy initiated teaching activities through the UCSD extension program, teaching a number of courses in their bioinformatics certificate program. While I did not observe these courses, I did have conversations about course content and found him to be a concerned and serious instructor. Based on research presentation I have seen, I expect that his teaching abilities are above average.

In summary, I think Dr. Reddy is an excellent candidate with an established research record. He is farther along in developing independent funded research program than many at his stage of their career. He has broad experience, and strong interest in teaching. I think he would make a strong contribution to your department and would be successful in obtaining grant funding within a short period of time. As his career develops, Dr. Reddy has the ability and potential to become a world leader in computational structural biology.

Sincerely,



Michael Gribskov



DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES  
29 DECEMBER 2004

Professor of Biological Sciences  
Purdue University