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Letter of Recommendation for Jan Karbowski

Jan Karbowski is a former condense matter physicist from Poland who has converted to doing research in computational neuroscience. I got to know him first because he came to see me when he arrived in Boston to discuss what he should do here. Since he was already at BU at the time, I suggested he work in Nancy Kopell's group and that is what he did. He then went on to work in Pittsburgh and Pasadena. Jan and I also interacted over a couple of research projects and at the Woods Hole Course in Computational Neuroscience.

Jan has quite exceptional calculational abilities. Even among a cohort of hard-calculating theoretical physicist, Jan would be in an elite group. In computational neuroscience, there are very few who can match his raw calculational skills. That said, it is important that Jan harness his analytic talents appropriately to this field by finding topics and areas where they can be used to advantage. I have lost track of his progress in recent years at the University of Pittsburgh and Caltech, so this issue may be rectified by now.

Jan is hard working and ambition, and he clearly wants to do something important. If he can find the right type of problems to match his abilities, I think he can achieve these goals.

Sincerely,