



FAX 805-893-4120

DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY
SANTA BARBARA, CALIFORNIA 93106-9510
(805) 893-2256, metiu@chem.ucsb.edu

December 6, 2004

Biocomplexity Faculty Search Committee
c / o Prof. Rob de Ruyter van Steveninck
Department of Physics
Indiana University
Swain Hall West 117
Bloomington IN 47405-7105

Dear Colleagues:

Dr. Andrij Baumketner asked me to write a letter recommending him for a faculty position at Indiana University. He is a postdoc in Joan Shea's group and I did not work directly with him. However, we have a weekly theory lunch, in which all theorists in the department participate. Andrij is there every week and gave several talks on his work in progress. His talks were excellent. His English is good, he has a good presence, the material was well organized and clearly presented, and the work was done very competently. He handled my many questions very well. He has is also very active in seminars and often asks very good questions, that shows that he has a broad background in theory and simulations and an extensive knowledge of the properties of various biological systems.

My personal scientific interactions with him were brief and not in depth. However, I found him very articulate and interesting, and the statements he made were competent and showed good judgment. In all such conversations I learned something from him, and when he speaks I pay attention.

He is one of the best postdocs we had in theory in the past five years and stands out among the group of students and postdocs performing simulations of biological systems.

I will leave it to Joan Shea to give you more details. If she says that he is an exceptional postdoc I have no reason to disagree with her assessment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Horia Metiu".

Horia Metiu
Professor of Chemistry and Physics