

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Pierce Hall 313, 29 Oxford Street, Cambridge, MA 02138
Telephone: (617) 495-3336
Fax: (617) 496-0601

DIVISION OF ENGINEERING AND APPLIED SCIENCES

MICHAEL P. BRENNER
Gordon McKay Professor of Applied Mathematics and Applied Physics
E-mail: brenner@deas.harvard.edu

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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

Gentlemen,

This is a letter of recommendation for Aripita Upadhyaya, who is applying for a junior faculty position in your department. I have known Arpita for about four years--we had a very nice collaboration for a time on a problem involving the morphology (and morphological transitions) in a certain type of yeast colonies. We had a lot of fun working together, and I was very impressed with both her experimental abilities as well as her willingness to think and argue through the details of the experiments and the overall phenomenology.

I have followed from a distance Arpita's work on actin generated motility of lipid membranes. Although I do not know the literature in this field well enough to understand how it fits into a larger picture, I did on several occasions enjoy talking with her about the experiments and arguing about what was going on (in particular i was interested in the distorted shape of her vesicles). I see from her CV that she has engaged in a number of other interesting projects during the past few years, on a variety of different topics. She certainly seems quite ready to start her own research group in biophysics, and I could only expect that her group will continue to produce high quality research.

To conclude, I am very supportive of Arpita--she is an excellent experimental biophysicist, and I have every expectation that her research group will produce work of the highest quality for years to come. Based on my interactions with her I have every expectation she would be an excellent colleague.

I hope you find this letter helpful.

Sincerely yours,



Michael P. Brenner