



AMES LABORATORY

December 20, 2004

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

Dear Search Committee,

This letter is to express my strongest recommendation of Dr. Valter Zazubovich who has applied for a faculty position in Biocomplexity Institute at Indiana University. I have known Dr. Zazubovich for several years as a collaborator. He has been a postdoctoral fellow in Professor Gerald Small's group. In November 1, 2004 he joined my group (for one year) at Ames Laboratory as an Assistant Scientist. He has received his Ph.D. in Estonia in 1999 and worked with me at Ames Laboratory for several years on various projects related to photosynthesis. He is a very independent researcher, and in all these years, I could count on him to provide his best judgment, and his knowledge and experimental talents always impressed me.

He has produced a substantial body of work while at Iowa State University/Ames Laboratory USDOE, and his experience in high-resolution spectroscopies is particularly strong. Dr. Zazubovich significantly contributed to several projects related to energy and electron transfer processes in complex biological systems. He has made notable contributions in explaining the structure – function relationship in many photosynthetic antenna pigment complexes and reaction centers. His work also produced superior information on energy transfer in various antenna pigment complexes.

Finally, I should emphasize that Valter's people skills are terrific. He is a pleasure to work with and very interactive. I believe that Valter, with his research experience, and his solid scientific background in physics and physical chemistry will be a valuable addition to the Biocomplexity Institute at Indiana University.

Yours sincerely,

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