

M O L E C U L A R B I O P H Y S I C S U N I T
I N D I A N I N S T I T U T E O F S C I E N C E
BANGALORE - 560 012 :: I N D I A

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Biocomplexity Faculty Search
C/o Prof. Rob de Ruyter van Steveninck
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Dear Professor Steveninck ,

I am writing this letter in support of the application of Dr. Kannan Gunasekaran, who, I understand, has applied for a faculty position in your institution.

Dr Gunasekharan joined my group in 1993, after a bright Academic career. During his course of doctorate study, he worked with Professor Balaram and me on a variety of problems related to structure, function and folding aspects of proteins. His work involved extensive data mining on protein structures, the results of which could be effectively used for modeling purpose. During this period, he acquired a sound knowledge of the various aspects related to protein structures. He has a very good insight into the computational aspects, which was an essential component of his work. Since our group is interested in the development of in-house software for day-to day research, programs developed by him had been useful not only to him but also to others in my group. His doctoral-work resulted in interesting publications.

Subsequently, he moved to U.S. for post-doctoral research, first at University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and then at NCI-NIH, Frederick. In both places, he has acquired good experience and skill in the areas of Computational structural biology and Bioinformatics. In these fields too, he has been associated with very interesting work and this has resulted in a number of publications, as can be seen from his bio-data. I have been in touch with his work from time to time and have enjoyed his research progress. His pre-doctoral knowledge and experience, coupled with more sophisticated and state-of-art techniques, such as Molecular Modeling, Molecular Dynamics simulation, data-base analysis applicable to structure-function relationship has enabled him to carry out good quality work on practical application aspects such as Cellular Retinoic Acid-binding Proteins and various structure-related topics pertaining to Amyloid disease.

Thus, during his pre and post-doctoral research periods, he has acquired experience and skill in the areas of Protein structure, conformation, interaction and folding. He is a hard-working and dedicated research worker, fully committed to the research projects he is working with.

On the personal side, he is soft-spoken, very diligent in his work and very keen on finishing the work on time. I have no doubt in my mind that with his experience, knowledge, enthusiasm and diligence, he will be able to successfully perform his duties as a faculty both in teaching as well as high quality independent research work.

With these few words, I would like to endorse my whole-hearted support for his application.

12 February 2005

Yours sincerely,
Sd/-
C. RAMAKRISHNAN