



STANFORD UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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Indiana University Department of Biology and Biocomplexity Institute

Letter of recommendation for Joe Pomerening:

I have known Dr. Pomerening since he came as a postdoctoral fellow to Jim Ferrell's laboratory in the Department of Molecular Pharmacology here in Stanford. I had during this time several discussions with him about his project ideas often around our mutual interest in understanding timing and signaling questions in the cell cycle. I have also seen him work and function as a researcher in the Ferrell group and also seen him present his work at several departmental retreats.

I believe that Dr. Pomerening is an exceptionally skilled scientist with many interesting project ideas who made two seminal contributions to the cell cycle field over the last few years. I have seen a rapid evolution of his thinking that led to a focus on the question of bistability, positive feedback and timing mechanisms in the cell cycle. His past work on CDC2 and bistability that he published in *NCB* was a beautiful blend of calculations and experimental work that introduced the concept of hysteresis and led to an intriguing model for this important cellular switch. His more recent paper in *Cell* where he describes experimental and theoretical results of a loss in positive feedback which led to a second important concept: the relevance of positive feedback to ensure that oscillations are not dampened. He has since focused on live-cell visualization of mammalian cell cycle signaling events using automated fluorescence microscopy and discovered several interesting timing mechanisms (this work is not yet published). These recent results open a lot of new possibilities and guarantee that he will have interesting projects to pursue when he starts his own laboratory as an Assistant Professor.

In addition to his scientific skills, Joe has been a great colleague to talk to, functioned well in the laboratory (helpful, liked by his peers) and showed skill and enthusiasm when presenting his research at several departmental occasions. From my discussions with him, I found him to be knowledgeable in cell biology and other fields relevant to his work, enthusiastic and innovative in his work and overall to be an outstanding scientist.

He is definitely among the best postdoctoral fellows here in the Medical School in Stanford and I strongly encourage you to consider hiring him as an Assistant Professor.

I hope this is helpful,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tobias Meyer'.

Best wishes,  
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