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Re: John Kirby

Prof. James A. Glazier
Director, Biocomplexity Institute
Department of Physics
Swain Hall West 159
727 East Third Street
Indiana University, Bloomington
Bloomington, IN 47405-7105

Dear James,

I met John Kirby in 1998 when he started postdoctoral work in David Zusman's laboratory at UC Berkeley. He did his graduate work with George Ordal at the University of Illinois working on chemotaxis in *B. subtilis*. His postdoctoral work was a search for all chemotaxis-like genes in *M. xanthus*. Strikingly, he found eight complete "chemotaxis-like" operons. Despite protein homology, however, he did not show chemotaxis. Some of the operons, like *che 3* control gene expression. I edited the paper on *che3* that he submitted to PNAS. It was ok, but not great. He has given about ten presentations at Myxo meetings that I have attended. He is a clear speaker. He is quite facile with his computer, and helps other people at Myxo meetings with their computer-aided presentations. I have never seen him do or present a simulation or computation. I don't know how much he likes math or appreciates its power. On the other hand, I see no reason why he wouldn't be able to collaborate with theorists.

Sincerely,

Dale Kaiser

Dale Kaiser
Professor of Biochemistry
and of Developmental Biology