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Date: Wed, 02 Nov 2005 15:29:59 +0000

To: jebennet@indiana.edu From: ucgapna@ucl.ac.uk Subject: Bushra Ahmed

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Bushra worked in my lab as a postdoctoral research assistant for 3 years. The project was complex and involved making viral vectors to deliver Cre recombinase to the brains of mice with floxed genes. Bushra successfully made the viral vectors in collaboration with Joost Verhaagen. She took part in preliminary experiments using the vectors in vivo. The project has proven difficult and is still in progress, but a significant publication should be forthcoming. Bushra is a Good team member and was liked by everyone in the lab. She is very enthusiastic and creative and has all the basic molecular biological skills a neuroscience lab could ask for.

Patrick Anderson
Professor of Experimental Neuroscience
Department of Anatomy and Developmental Biology
University College London
Gower Street
London WC1E 6BT
UK
020 7679 3300 (+44 20 7679 3300 from abroad)
Fax 020 7679 7349 (+44 20 7679 7349)

Letter of Reference for Dr. Bushra Yaqoob

CONFIDENTIAL

November 2, 2005

Dr. Jeremy Bennett
Faculty Search Coordinator
Department of Biology
Indiana University
1001 East 3rd Street
Jordan Hall 127
Bloomington, IN 47405-3700

Dear Dr. Bennett:

I am happy to write this letter to you to support the application of Dr. Bushra Yaqoob. She spent 4 years in my laboratory as a PhD student from 1994 to 1997. She first knew me by reading our published paper and directly wrote to me that she wanted to do PhD training in our lab. I had a confidence from her letter and her CV, that she is an enthusiastic and keen student, and I decided to take her in my lab.

As expected, she had been a diligent and hard working student. She respected other members in the lab and cooperated very well. Everybody preferably accepted her as a co-worker. After two years hard work, she could successfully finish her first project and got published her data in Neuroscience Research in 1996. Her collaboration work with the other scientist was also published in Vision Research in 1996.

She then started a project using electro-physiological technique to make long-term potentiation (LTP) and depression (LTD) in rat hippocampus slices. I myself really wanted to start this work for many years, and she made my wish come true. This work was also successfully accomplished by her, and was published in Brain Research in 1997. Then, she continued to elucidate the translocation of Ca²⁺/calmodulin-dependent protein kinases from cytosol to nuclei in LTP model, and successfully finished this work. This work was published in Neuroscience Letters in 2000. In this sense, I can say without any hesitation that her contribution to our lab was excellent.

She has a strong will and bright intelligence to overcome facing troubles, and do enormous effort to solve problems. She always tried to find clues which are useful to push forward her project from literatures and books. She does not hesitate to go and ask people who has more knowledge and experiences, and is smart enough to find an appropriate idea or method by herself.

Her skills cover the wide range of the biological sciences. She mastered neurobiological method well in our lab, and has learned molecular biological method during her postdoctoral fellowship in USA. She can handle animals and is good at cell culture. Immunological methods including Western blot and immunohisotochemistry are also her favorite skills. I am confident that she will be able to take part in your project.

Honestly speaking, she was one of the brightest graduate students who I have ever met, and has a talented potential as an independent researcher. I am happy to know that she

has applied to your lab, and I strongly recommend her for the position without any hesitation.

Since she left here, I and my wife have been getting in touch with her as a good friend of ours. She is a wonderful person who is very comfortable for us to keep close friendship. I sincerely hope that she will get a position in your lab.

Yours sincerely,

Masaaki Tokuda, MD, PhD Professor Department of Cell Physiology Faculty of Medicine Kagawa University 1750-1 Ikenobe, Miki-cho Kagawa 761-0793, Japan

Tel: +81-87-891-2095 Fax: +81-87-891-2096 E-mail: tokuda@kms.ac.jp