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Professor James Glazier
Director, Biocomplexity Institute
Department of Physics
Indiana University, Bloomington
727 East Third Street
Bloomington, IN 47405-7105
U. S. A.

Dear Professor Glazier:

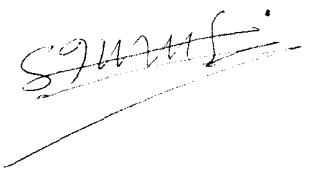
It is my pleasure to write a recommendation letter for Dr. Jong Wook Hong of California Institute of Technology to a faculty position for "Microfluidics" in Biocomplexity Institute. I served as Professor of Chemical Engineering at The University of Tokyo (now, Professor Emeritus) and Kyushu University. I am currently with the Department of Applied Life Science, Sojo University. I was President of the Society of Chemical Engineers, Japan, in 1996 and am now serving as President of the Membrane Society of Japan. I also served as a member of the 18th term of Science Council of Japan from July 2000 to July 2003, which is highly recognized status in Japanese academy.

I have known Dr. Hong since 1996 when he tried to join with my lab of The University of Tokyo for his doctoral degree through Japanese Government Fellowship, one of the most competitive fellowships in Japan. I remember that his academic records during his undergraduate and graduate were excellent and his master's thesis was also impressive. I was with him at The University of Tokyo from April 1997 to March 1998 before I left there for Kyushu University due to the regulation of retirement age at The University of Tokyo. He was concordant with other group members and always gave helpful hands to them. At that time, he discussed with me about his research topics through regular lab meetings and his interests were given in molecular control of biomolecules and Nano/Microfluidcs based on MEMS technology. This probably was the starting point of his researches on Nano/Microfluidcs and as far as I know he is the first scholar who finished his/her Ph.D. in this field in Japan.

Dr. Hong has shown his excellence in research not only publishing his papers in major journals or competitive international conference proceedings but also receiving honorable awards twice: one from Young Asian Biochemical Engineers Community (YABEC) in 2000 right after receiving his PhD from The University of Tokyo and another from Kanto (Tokyo and vicinity) Branch, the Society of Chemical Engineers, Japan, in 1999 when he was still a PhD candidate. Dr. Hong's research is intrinsically very interdisciplinary among Biotechnology, Chemical Engineering, Materials Science, Mechanical Engineering, and Electrical Engineering and this would match well with one of the future research directions in your institute. His successful research experiences at most competitive institutes in the worlds such as the Institute of Physical and Chemical Research (RIKEN), Institute of Industrial Science (IIS) as well as CALTECH could be very helpful in establishing and leading internationally recognized research program at Biocomplexity Institute, Indiana University. Moreover, he is one of the important personnel who are well understanding both biotechnology and engineering languages.

For these reasons, I strongly recommend Dr. Jong Wook Hong to a faculty position in your departments. I believe that his ability is enough to fulfill the expectation of your school about this emerging field. If you have any question about this recommendation, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely yours,



Shintaro Furusaki, Professor & Dr.