

Prof. Rob de Ruyter van Steveninck
Chair, Biocomplexity Search Committee
Department of Physics
Indiana University Bloomington
Swain West 165

16 January 2004

Dear Prof. Rob de Ruyter van Steveninck,

I am glad to have this opportunity to provide the following recommendation in support of Dr. Roman R. Poznanski who has applied to Indiana University Bloomington for a position in Biocomplexity, Department of Physics. Dr. Poznanski has training and research skills in information processing in integrative neuronal networks of brain and retina, with unparalleled strength in the quantitative aspects of neural circuitry.

I am very interested in his current work and development as a scientist. We are collaborating in experimental work of brain and retinal circuitry, and we further wish to combine our efforts in exploring new areas in neuroscience research.

I am most impressed by 3 qualities of Dr. Poznanski. Perhaps the most well-documented of these is his talent and prowess as a scientist. The published works of Dr. Poznanski demonstrate an unusual ability to mount investigations of questions which have challenged his predecessors and peers world-wide. This is apparent from Dr. Poznanski's substantial publications. His work indicates that Dr. Poznanski systematically tackles sound neuro-scientific questions by applying appropriate methods. The presentation and aesthetic quality of Dr. Poznanski's work is outstanding.

A second strength which is demonstrated by Dr. Poznanski's publication record is the breadth of his interests. Over the past 10

years, Dr. Poznanski has systematically investigated hot spots in neurophysiology. In the scientific talents which Dr. Poznanski has acquired over the past 10 years, Dr. Poznanski will be prepared to investigate problems of major neuroscience importance in future years.

Finally, it is clear from all of my encounters and communications with Dr. Poznanski that he is motivated by a sincere interest in neuroscience. This, more than patience or efficiency, but an internal motivation rare to find today that, will enable Dr. Poznanski to ask important research questions, persist through challenges and frustrations, and develop mutually beneficial relationships with colleagues.

In summary, I consider Dr. Poznanski to be well within the top 5% of all young investigators I know. I am grateful to work with Dr. Poznanski now. We are developing novel concepts concerning "functions of electrical synapses via gap junctions in brain and retinal networks". I am confident that, in so far as his ability as a person for the position is concerned, Dr. Poznanski gives excellent presentations and he explains complex material in a step-by-step fashion that most all can understand, and he will expand the range of scientific questions he can answer in the years to come.

I strongly recommend Dr. Poznanski for the position.

Respectfully yours,

Soh Hidaka, Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Physiology
Fujita Health University School of Medicine