

January 15, 2004

Biocomplexity Faculty Search Committee
Biocomplexity Institute, Indiana University
Swain Hall West 117
Bloomington, Indiana 47405-7105

Dear Chairperson:

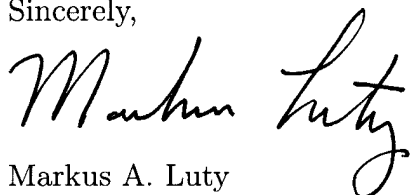
I am writing in support of the application of Crystal Cooper for a faculty position at the Biocomplexity Institute at Indiana University. I have known Crystal for approximately 2 years. Our contact comes primarily from the fact that we both taught the same undergraduate physics course 2 years ago, and we have had many discussions about teaching and mentoring during and after that time. I will confine my remarks to the area of teaching, since her research specialty is outside my area of expertise (I work in particle theory).

Crystal is a very well-motivated instructor. She cares deeply about her students, and puts a great deal of thought and effort into her teaching. I believe that she is a very good instructor, and will do an excellent job in reaching students from diverse backgrounds.

Crystal has been very active in involving undergraduates in her research at the University of Maryland. I know of one undergraduate physics major who worked for Crystal in her laboratory. This student had a very positive experience working with Crystal, and I expect that she will continue to be active and successful involving students in physics research.

In summary, I believe that Crystal will make a strong addition to the faculty at the Biocomplexity Institute at Indiana University, particularly in the area of teaching and mentoring.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Markus Luty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "L" and a long, sweeping tail.

Markus A. Luty
Associate professor of physics
University of Maryland