



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

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January 9, 2004

Biocomplexity Faculty Search Committee
c/o Professor Rob de Ruyter van Steveninck
Biocomplexity Institute
Indiana University
Swain Hall West 1117
Bloomington, IN 47405-7105

Dear Professor de Ruyter van Steveninck:

Crystal Cooper is very interested in involving undergraduates in research, both laboratory and theoretical research. She has recruited four undergraduates who work quite hard on the projects she gives them. This should be an important part of the undergraduate experience. The theoretical problems range from investigating the possibility of a planet with a stable orbit around one of the Alpha Centauri stars to probability problems. Another project involves chaotic motion of a particle traveling on a moving cone.

Crystal is quite independent and comes up with her own problems, a valuable ability. She is quite resourceful in finding equipment to do her experiments. She currently works with people from a variety of areas, namely geology and math and neurophysiology. This will be valuable wherever she goes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James A. Yorke".

James A. Yorke

Distinguished University Professor of Mathematics & Physics