

Teterina, Yana A

From: De Ruyter, Robert R.
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2004 5:07 PM
To: Teterina, Yana A
Subject: FW: Dr. Battogtokh

-----Original Message-----

From: Alexander Mikhailov [mailto:mikhailov@fhi-berlin.mpg.de]
Sent: Monday, January 19, 2004 3:07 AM
To: De Ruyter, Robert R.
Subject: Dr. Battogtokh

Letter of Recommendation

I have learned that Dr. Dorjsuren Battogtokh has applied for a vacant assistant professor position in biocomplexity at your Department. I know Dr. Battogtokh for almost 20 years and was his academic supervisor in the university Diploma and the PhD thesis. I have also followed his subsequent career and it was on my recommendation that, after staying as a doctoral student and a postdoc in Berlin, he moved to the University of Kyoto. Already in his Diploma thesis Dr.

Battogtokh was working on the problems of complex biological systems and performed computer modeling of wave patterns in excitable media by means of cellular automata. His subsequent PhD thesis was again devoted to computer simulations, but this time of partial differential equations that describe oscillatory chemical reaction-diffusion systems near a supercritical Hopf bifurcation. He investigated a possibility of controlling turbulence (spatiotemporal chaos) in such systems by introduction of global delayed feedbacks. Even today, almost 10 years later, his computer videos of various turbulent regimes remain among the best available worldwide. These investigations provided a basis for the first experimental implementation of the control of chemical turbulence, that was performed in our Department in 2001 for surface chemical reactions, was reported in Science and has received broad press coverage, including a special publication in Physics Today. Together with Prof. Y. Kuramoto, Dr. Battogtokh has continued to work in this field and has carried out extensive numerical investigations of turbulence in populations of nonlocally coupled limit-cycle oscillators. As I know, Dr. Battogtokh has also successfully worked as a postdoctoral fellow at the Universities of Louisiana and Georgia, and is now employed by the Virginia Technical University. Turning to his personal features, I should mention the persistent work motivation of Dr. Battogtokh, as well as his excellent skills in large-scale numerical simulations. Dr. Battogtokh is also a friendly person who feels at ease in a team. He is much interested in culture and philosophy, and speaks English, German, Russian, Japanese, Mongolian and old Tibetan languages. I recommend to accept his application for a vacant staff position.

Alexander Mikhailov

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