Professor Rob de Ruyter Biocomplexity Faculty Search Committee Department of Physics Swain West 117 727 East Third Street Indiana University Bloomington IN 47405-7105 USA



Polymers & Colloids Group Department of Physics

16th January 2004

Dear Professor de Ruyter,

Dr Leo Silbert

He has asked me to write to you supporting him for a post with the Department of Physics at the Indiana University.

Leo did his Ph.D. here under John Melrose (now at Unilever Colworth House) and worked on the numerical Simulation of Colloidal Flow, a subject of great technological interest particularly in the Food Industry, but one which also poses basic problems in physics. The work went well and he did an excellent thesis. He then went to work with Gary Grest at the Sandia Laboratories in New Mexico. Grest is a leading figure in computational physics and Leo has completed a large programme there. He has recently done excellent work in Sid Nagel's group at the James Franck Institute in Chicago. He has put together an impressive program of work to be done in the 'jamming' area, and is full of ideas on glasses and granular systems.

He is an agreeable young man who has state of the art knowledge in computational physics. He has a quiet friendly personality and would have no problems fitting into the Department and his skill in computation of colloid problems should be of special value to you.

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Best wishes

Professor Sir Sam Edwards

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