



Dr. Wener Purgathofer, Chair
Institute for Computer Graphics and Algorithms
Vienna University of Technology
Favoritenstrasse 9-11 / E186
A-1040 Wien, Austria

December 7, 2009

Dear Dr. Purgathofer,

I am writing to you in recognition of the fine reputation of your university and the excellent students graduating from your department. I seek your assistance in recruiting outstanding students to our Ph.D. program in Computer Science.

I would first like to inform you of exciting events in the Computer Science department at UNC Charlotte. In the last few years, our department has hired 8 new faculty members in computer vision, visualization, data mining, and robotics. We have grown to 22 full-time faculty, and recent faculty awards include two NSF Career Awards and a DOE Young Investigator Award. Our research is supported by industry and government agencies such as the National Science Foundation, Department of Education, Department of Defense and the Department of Energy. Our annual research funding has grown to over \$4 million.

Our department is recruiting outstanding graduate students to our Ph.D. program in all areas of Computer Science, particularly with an emphasis on visualization, knowledge discovery, data mining, computer vision, robotics, sensor networks, and computer games. Our Ph.D. program is heavily research oriented, and students are admitted to research groups to get them involved in research from their first day here. We are actively looking for graduate students with a strong academic record and a demonstrated potential for research.

We would like your support in encouraging your very best students to apply to our doctoral program. We will waive the application fees for two top students that you nominate. Based on their research interests, we will strongly consider them for financial aid in the form of Research Assistantships and Teaching Assistantships.

I am enclosing a summary of our faculty research interests. We encourage you to learn more about our department from our web page at www.cs.uncc.edu. Our department is part of the College of Computing and Informatics (www.cci.uncc.edu), and UNC Charlotte has been ranked in the Top Ten up and coming universities in the US by US News. The city of Charlotte is one of the fastest growing cities in the US. Please feel free to contact me or Prof. Jing Xiao (xiao@uncc.edu), our Ph.D. Program Director, if you need any additional information.

I am also enclosing a copy of this letter and would appreciate it if you could post it, along with the faculty research summary, on your department bulletin board.

Sincerely,

Dr. William Ribarsky
Bank of America Endowed Chair in Information Technology
Chair, Computer Science Department
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Director, Charlotte Visualization Center
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