

U N I V E R S I T Y *of* H O U S T O N

Department of Physics

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September 04, 2013



Professor Wen-Chin Wu  
Department of Physics  
National Taiwan Normal University  
Taipei, Taiwan

Dear Prof. Wu

The University of Houston Physics Department would like to extend to the Department of Physics at the National Taiwan Normal University an offer of the *imprimatur* to appoint up to two students per year for admission to the annual incoming class of our graduate Ph.D. program.

By granting you this *imprimatur* we agree to admit any otherwise qualified (as specified below) student that you may nominate based solely on your recommendation. These students will be admitted to our program under our present policy with a guarantee of a stipend as a Teaching Assistant (TA) for their first year. As is the case for all of the students in our Ph.D. program, it will be the student's responsibility to identify a Ph.D. thesis advisor who will accept the responsibility for their support as a Research Assistant (RA) for the balance of their thesis research beyond the first year. All students supported as either a TA or an RA receive both a Doctoral Student Tuition Fellowship (DSTF) and an out-of-state tuition waiver for a period of five years. Together, the DSTF and the tuition waiver substantially cover the University of Houston's tuition. The students will also receive access to student health insurance and an addition to their stipend to cover that expense. This guarantee of support will remain valid so long as the student maintains a good academic standing in the department and conforms to all existing university policies regarding their general behavior.

The University will also support their applications for any necessary visas, should they be required. It is our desire that you recommend to us students who you feel in your best judgment are dedicated to pursue a career in physics (without regard to the sub-specialty within physics) and who possess the skills to be successful in our program and ultimately as our professional colleagues.

We expect that the students you may recommend satisfy the nominal minimum requirements for admission to all graduate programs at the University of Houston as specified under the graduate admissions requirements on our web site. These requirements include achieving acceptable scores on the Graduate Record Examination (GRE) and the TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language). The current minimum acceptable TOEFL score is 79. We do not have a firm minimum GRE score, but currently a combined quantitative and verbal score of about 305 is

minimally acceptable. Clearly, a sufficient command of English is required to enable them to participate in the graduate program here and beyond the TOEFL requirement we will leave that assessment to your judgment. The final requirement for these students is that they complete and submit the online application including the required accompanying documentation with the exception that yours is the only recommendation needed.

Each year, we will set a nominal date by which we would like to receive your recommendations, and we shall endeavor to communicate that date to you. In the event that you do not receive any such specific date for a given year, the default date will be March 1 for the next coming academic year, which typically begins in late August. (Entering graduate students are expected to arrive at least two weeks before classes begin.)

Although we are formally limiting this offer of an *imprimatur* to a maximum of two students per academic year, we are fully open to consider any additional recommendations for admission of students to our program that you might like to make, and that we will consider them within the limitations of our funding for each individual year.

Please note that the continuation of this *imprimatur* will depend on the success in our Ph.D. Program of the students you recommend. We reserve the right to cancel it if the students do not success in our program.

I hope that you will accept our offer by signing and returning a copy of this letter to us by October 15, 2013, and I look forward to a long and successful relationship with the National Taiwan Normal University.



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Prof. Wen-Chin Wu  
Chairman, Department of Physics  
National Taiwan Normal University



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Prof. G. H. Gunaratne  
Chairman, Department of Physics  
University of Houston