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LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

It gives me immense pleasure in recommending Mr. Gaurav Moudgil for the graduate Program in Structural Engineering, Mechanics and Materials at university of California, Berkeley. I have known him very closely since July 2000 when he enrolled as an undergraduate student in the Department of Civil Engineering at Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh, in my capacity as Professor and Head, Department of Environmental and Highway Engineering and Dean of Students Welfare. I came to know him so closely because of his exceptional performance in the colleges' Entrance test and a rank far ahead of the rest of the class. I have also taught him full credit courses namely Geotechnical Engineering, New Technologies and Environmental Engineering. I am his guide for his Environmental project on Design of Sewage Treatment Plant also. I have been closely associated with his academic and practical work.

Gaurav stands way ahead in the elite category of few students possessing exceptional mathematical and analytical ability. In this context, I wish to place on record his outstanding academic performance during the three and a half years of study, both in internal as well as University examinations. He is not only Civil Engineering topper but also the University topper way ahead of other toppers of 9 other branches. He consistently placed 1st in all the 6 semesters in the university and his current performance in the 7th semester is icing on the cake. He is currently aggregating to 82.12% till the 6th semester and I would rank him in the top 10 students I have taught till date. He always exhibited punctuality, promptness, quality work and leadership potential that is uncommon for his age group. He is always composed having a positive attitude of life.

Gaurav has a very clear objective that he wishes to carry out research in the field of Structural Engineering. His research interests are reflected by his work on various projects he has undertaken not only in this college but also at prestigious Public Sector Units like EIL (Engineers India Limited) where selection for training in itself is a great achievement. I am also delighted to know that he has been called by EIL for further research and development after the 7th semester for Winter Training. His skills in the field of computers can be reflected by the fact that he was the first candidate from the College and Civil engineering to be selected by Infosys Technologies (Leading IT company in India) during the 2003-2004 Placement Session. He was also selected for the 4 weeks Summer Training Camp at Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur during this period. His class assignments and presentations are very impressive and exemplify his brilliance. All of the above elucidates the depth of his knowledge, his ability to clearly grasp concepts and research acumen. He is the recipient of Silver Medal for Excellence in Mathematics in National Talent Search Contest.

He also co-authored numerous papers with me in a number of diverse Civil Engineering subjects. His paper on "Potential Applications of IT based Techniques in residential /institutional Buildings" earned him praise from the Indian Building Congress. He also gave a poster presentation on the above at Conference organized by the IETE. He studied the Rain Water Harvesting System for AEPC International Mart and has developed a model based on the above. He is co-authoring a research paper on the above with me to be published in the Journal of The Institution Of Engineers. He is currently engaged in another area of research in India i.e. "The Inter basin Water Transfer, Interlinking of rivers of India". He is writing a paper under my guidance on the Environmental and Legal aspects of the above. His methodological approach and clarity of fundamentals coupled with eagerness makes me confident in his decision to pursue higher education.

In addition to producing excellent academic work, Gaurav has involved himself in numerous extra curricular activities, throughout his busy career in college, which are equally impressive. He worked dedicatedly as the student coordinator for ISTE (Indian Society for Technical Education), organizing and managing various technical paper presentations, events etc. He is also the member of Civil Engineering Cricket team and the member of the college cricket team.

His high level of intelligence, exceptional numerical ability, zeal for hard and systematic work and natural inclination makes him an outstanding student who is destined for significant accomplishments in graduate work in Structural engineering. He is destined to do something not done so far. I have myself been associated with various Indian, Canadian and American universities, their educational system and industry and never experienced a student like Gaurav. I very strongly recommend him for the MS program culminating in PhD, with full financial assistance in prestigious institution like yours. He has proven to be an all rounder in the true sense and would definitely be an asset to any institution. I wish him success in his future endeavors.

Dr. R K Khitoliya