

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this letter in support of Manjeera Martina's application for a teaching position. Let me introduce myself. I am Regents Professor in the Department of Chemistry at the University of Minnesota. Over the years, in my research group, there have been about a hundred students and a hundred postdoctoral associates, carrying out research in several areas of dynamics and electronic structure in large and complicated systems under my direction. I knew Manjeera as a research student in my group for about a year from August 2008 to June 2009

During the short time that I was fortunate to have her join our research team, she learned the theory and she reviewed the work in the relevant area and got reliable results that laid the path for three peer-reviewed publications, on two of which she was the leading author. She conducted research and carried out calculations for consistent van der Waals radii for the whole main group of the periodic table and performed validation studies of the ability of density functionals to predict the planar-to-three-dimensional structural transition in anionic gold clusters, which was a state-of-the-art contribution. Our paper on van der Waals radii has been cited 983 times (most scientists spend a lifetime in research and never publish a paper with that many citations).

Manjeera's was always a pleasure to work with. She was able to work productively both independently and as a member of a team. She was always very professional. She became a good friend and colleague to the members of the group and was an active participant in group meetings and discussions. She was dedicated to her job and promptly completed all associated work and responsibilities. She has a unique style of work, with confidence and creative ideas. I have nothing but the best to say about her.

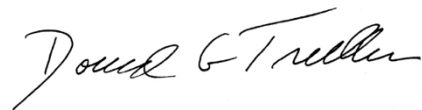
We also published a short contribution to the *Handbook of Chemistry and Physics*, which is reprinted yearly in each new edition to this day.

Possessing the skill and value set that Manjeera does, along with her enthusiastic and positive frame of mind, I highly recommend her for a teaching role.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if further information is needed to support Manjeera's application.

Sincerely yours,

Sincerely,



Donald G. Truhlar
Regents Professor