

February 14, 2017

Prof. Christian Hilty
Department of Chemistry

RE: Rajat Maji

Dear Prof. Hilty:

I am pleased to recommend **Mr. Rajat Maji** for the graduate Student Distinguished Teaching Award because he is one of the best teaching assistant.

Rajat was my grader for couple of semesters and as such he was in charge of scoring and tallying a three hundred or so exams every couple weeks. He was prompt, accurate, and courteous.

Rajat also taught organic chemistry labs for 4 semesters under my supervision. I watched his performance and also his interactions with students. During that time, I learned that his students thought highly of him, and his teaching methods. He was one our best teachings assistants ever.

I have had several long chats with Rajat, sometimes just about life in general, and can say that none of Rajat's efforts are half-hearted. A career in Education is far closer to his heart and soul than would be a career in any other field, so I am happy for him that he made that choice.

Rajat actively seeks out opportunities to continue to improve his teaching and to learn more about how students learn. I attended some of his seminars and presentations in the department. I was amazed to observe his involvements in the discussions and presenting seminars. He always impressed me with his intelligence, maturity, and confidence. I think that education and teaching science is too much a part of him.

I do hope this letter has in some way communicated the respect and appreciation I have for this exceptional young man. I recommend him as highly as possible for the award.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'G. Gopalakrishnan'.

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