



THE UNIVERSITY of TENNESSEE

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Vice President for Information Technology and CIO

January 27, 2009

Dear ORU Review Committee,

I wholeheartedly endorse Professor Jack Dongarra's request for University support in 2009 for his *Center for Information Technology Research (CITR)*. When I recruited Jack nearly 20 years ago, I had every expectation that he would help UTK reach the forefront in high-performance computing and computational science developments. He has been widely recognized for achieving that goal, as well as maintaining that position year after year. With the University's support, the talented and highly professional support team he recruited to CITR has played a crucial role in this remarkable record of success. Taken together with the Computational Science Research Team at the Innovative Computing Laboratory which CITR supports, this group provides a beautiful model for a successful academic research unit, both within UTK and nationally. It is no surprise that CITR/ICL has become an incubator for UTK research talent and interdisciplinary collaborations, spinning off several strong, independent research activities that CITR has continued to support.

Both in terms of ROI easily measured in dollars, and ROI measured in international prestige and campus leadership, CITR has been an outstanding success, and consistently so. Therefore, I strongly urge you approve the CITR budget request for 2009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Poore'.

Jesse H. Poore