



College of Engineering
Chemical Engineering
419 Dougherty Engineering Building
Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-2200
(865) 974-2421
FAX (865) 974-7076

April 10, 2006

Professor Jack Dongarra
Computational Science
413 Claxton Education Building
Knoxville, TN 37996-3450

Professor Dongarra:

As the Head of the Chemical Engineering Department at the University of Tennessee, it is my pleasure to write a letter of support for the *Interdisciplinary Graduate Minor in Computational Science (IGMCS)* program. Our department is a participating member of *Intercollegiate Graduate Statistics Program (IGSP)* and have benefited from having students participate in the program. We expect much greater participation in the IGMCS because of the heavy computational emphasis of some of the faculty in the Chemical Engineering Department. Specifically, the Computational Materials Research Group (CMRG), which is led by David Keffer (Associate Professor, ChE) and Brian Edwards (Associate Professor, ChE) and which also includes Shengting Cui (Research Associate Professor, ChE), Bill Steele (Adjunct Professor, ChE), as well as post-doctoral researchers, graduate students, and undergraduate students, is particularly looking forward to participating in the new IGMCS program. The CMRG has felt for some time that an intercollegiate program in Computational Science like this one proposed has been sorely absent at UT. This new program will allow us to expose our graduate students to the broad range of computational expertise available across disciplines at UT, while at the same time officially recognizing the computational element of their training.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John R. Collier".

Dr. John R. Collier, PhD, PE
Professor and Head