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Dr. Jack Dongarra
Innovative Computing Laboratory
Department of Computer Science
1122 Volunteer Blvd
University of Tennessee
Knoxville TN, 37996-3450

Ref: Computational Science Program at University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Dear Jack,

I have been following very closely your efforts to establish the *Intercollegiate Graduate Program in Computational Science* at UTK. This program will offer a graduate minor in Computational Science at both the Master's and Ph.D. level.

Since the early stages of the proposal, I voiced my strong support to your efforts in establishing a platform for promoting "computational science" studies. You explored the options and assessed the feasibility of establishing either a certificate or an intercollegiate graduate program leading to a minor in computing. I could clearly see the benefits to students and to many research programs, including ours. I attended some of your meetings, and expressed interest in participating and even teaching courses related to computing. One cannot emphasize enough the value of the proposed approach to UTK, its impact on promoting interdisciplinary programs, and its role in enhancing collaborations between certain programs at UT and ORNL.

It is my pleasure to express my strong support to your efforts and to the proposed Intercollegiate Graduate Program in Computational Science. I sincerely hope to see this program established, and to participate in conducting and promoting it.

If there is anything I could do to facilitate or assist in establishing this program, please do not hesitate to contact me. I wish you complete success in this effort, and look forward to working together on the following steps.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Samir El-Ghazaly".

Samir M. El-Ghazaly
Professor and Head