

**University at Buffalo**  
*State University of New York*

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

May 19, 2017

Ms. Donna Grant  
Admissions, Department of CSE  
University at Buffalo  
Re: applicant Jonathan Goodrum

Dear Graduate Admissions Committee:

I am delighted to recommend Mr. Jonathan Goodrum for admission into the BS-MS program. I have known him since January as a student in my course, “CSE396: Intro Theory of Computation.” This includes frequent interaction during office hours and via online course media. Indeed, he attended some sessions of my graduate seminar on statistical issues in my chess model and has been a force in the *Piazza* message board for the course, contributing appropriate problem helps and humorous observations under the known moniker “D.J. Khaled.” (Relevant to say, the real Khaled once crashed a graduation ceremony of the Berkeley Statistics Department.)

Mr. Goodrum earned an A on both of my 80-minute “Prelim” exams, including a perfect 100 on the second. He messed up one part of the final, but with A-level homework too that will probably be his grade in the course. Most important, he’s joined my pantheon of those who have shown real intellectual power in this course in the past.

Indeed, I have discussed with him the idea of graduate work envisioning a doctorate, which might bypass doing the MS here. He replied that he is not ready to take that step but would consider it down the line. In any event, he is eminently qualified for the BS-MS program and seems to be turning his UB experience into a great one on all fronts, so I wholeheartedly recommend his admission. I will be happy to answer any other questions you may have.

Yours sincerely

Dr. Kenneth W. Regan