

June 11, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am pleased to write a letter of recommendation for Dr. Andrew Skadberg. I have known Dr. Skadberg since early 2005 when I was coordinating the international conference on China-U.S. Relations held in Beijing. Dr. Skadberg participated in a research roundtable session in this conference entitled, "Wetland Conservation, Nature-Based Tourism, and Rural Economic Development." I have been fortunate to work closely with him since he joined the staff of the Office of the Vice President for Research at Texas A&M University in November 2006 working on a variety of special projects and new technologies. During that time and since, I have found Dr. Skadberg to be professional, capable, knowledgeable, and dependable.

One of Dr. Skadberg's major projects during his employment at Texas A&M University from 2006 to 2008 was to help utilize the multi-million dollar Texaco Energy and Environmental Multispectral Imaging Spectrometer (TEEMS) system donated by ChevronTexaco to help support expansion of Texas A&M University's research and educational missions. He worked extensively and successfully to educate stakeholders and build teams with the goal of establishing a laboratory in which the TEEMS system could be used to perform hyperspectral training, research and development, and prepare the system for data collection. Dr. Skadberg was passionate about this project, and it came through in the progress made during his tenure.

In April 2008, Texas A&M University was awarded a \$20 million grant from King Abdullah University of Science and Technology's Global Research Partnership to establish an interdisciplinary scientific research center focusing on applied mathematics and computational science. During the formative stages of this proposal, Dr. Skadberg worked closely with the principal investigator in designing the strategy, structure, and programmatic directions of this multidisciplinary international center. He played an instrumental role in the development of the education component of this proposed center and was named Co-leader for Education in the pre-proposal before he left Texas A&M University in February 2008.

Finally, Dr. Skadberg provided tremendous support to the 2007 China-U.S. Relations Conference held in Washington, D.C. While making himself available for a variety of activities in support of this highly successful, international conference, Dr. Skadberg proved to be a strong team player and someone that everyone could rely upon without reservation.

Dr. Skadberg's final salary as an Assistant Research Scientist was \$72,099.96 per year. I am happy to provide additional information about Dr. Skadberg's employment with the Office of the Vice President for Research at Texas A&M University, if needed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julie Barker".

Ms. Julie K. Barker
Assistant Vice President and Chief of Staff
Office of the Vice President for Research