



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

The Edward S. Rogers Sr. Department of
Electrical & Computer Engineering
10 King's College Road
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5S 3G4

April 29, 2012

Prof. David Sheinberg
Search Committee Chair
Department of Neuroscience
Brown University, Providence, RI

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter to give my highest recommendation for Prof. José Manuel Medina Ruiz who was a postdoc and later visitor in my lab since 2003 and is currently applying for the open position as a professor in your department.

José is an outstanding colleague and among the very best of peers in the area of vision science and engineering. He has an excellent publication record and is already at the stage of his career where he deserves a faculty position at a major centre or university.

José has had some remarkable success in his work. First and foremost, José is a physicist and approaches his work in this manner. He has shown some remarkable results in hyperspectral imaging and correlating the diagnostic ability of this approach to finding disease in the eye. Vision loss is pegged at a cost of \$15 billion yearly in my own country of Canada. José has been pioneering new instruments and techniques that would allow early diagnosis of vision problems at their onset. His work has graced the covers of major publications in the vision community, and the project benefits from strategic grant funds in Europe. José now has the chance to bring his big ideas and work to North America. I believe that we shouldn't pass up on the opportunity to take him on.

As is evident, Jose is already a research assistant professor in Portugal. He is a seasoned academic -- one who is "ready-to-roll". José could arrive at a new place and literally within a week be grant and paper-writing. Very productive and very hardworking. Given his many years in Toronto and in Canada, he has extensive international experience. He communicates well in English.

Having been the chair of a recent (June 2011) search for professor in neural engineering at my own university, I understand very well the difficulties in finding a good person with strong background in the physical sciences for positions in interdisciplinary bio. There

are no worries with José. His background, personality and approach to his work is first and foremost as a physicist/engineer. He will be able to deliver a strong research program in your department.

Very, very highly recommended.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in grey ink, appearing to read 'Willy Wong', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Willy Wong, PhD
Associate Professor and Associate Chair
Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, and
Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering
University of Toronto
+1-416-978-8734 willy.wong@utoronto.ca