



Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

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June 27th, 2013

Dr. Vandana Hivrale
Associate Professor
Department of Biochemistry
Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University
Aurangabad-431005, Maharashtra
INDIA

Dear Dr. Hivrale

I am pleased to extend an invitation to you to be a Visiting Research Scholar in the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology at Oklahoma State University. As proposed, you will collaborate closely with Dr. Ramanjulu Sunkar on research related to "Role of microRNAs in cross-kingdom gene regulation". Additionally, we expect that you will be involved in many activities that will allow for cultural exchange among faculty, staff and students. The invitation is approved by the Head of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources and is valid for a period of twelve months beginning September 1st, 2013 and will conclude on August 31st, 2014. In the event that your arrival must be postponed or is delayed due to the required visa application process, please inform us so we may adjust your program dates appropriately.

During your stay here, we will be able to provide you with office space, secretarial support and computer and internet access. We cannot provide you with any form of salary nor can we pay any of your expenses. We understand that you will be using personal funds obtained through Raman fellowship awarded by the University Grants Commission, India during your stay here. We will also identify options for temporary housing and their estimated costs and forward this information to you in the coming weeks.

To satisfy immigration and program requirements, you must demonstrate that you have the required minimum of \$1000 per month of intended stay. You will also be required to purchase and maintain health and emergency evacuation insurance that meets the minimum standards set by the Exchange Visitor Program. Additionally, you will be responsible for all fees and expenses related to your visa and stay here. These include the following: \$180 SEVIS fee, Visa application Fee, \$65 ISS Fee, \$19 OSU ID fee and any subsequent fees or related costs for services at the university.

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You will be issued a Certificate of Eligibility for Exchange Visitor (J-1) status (Form DS-2019), which will allow you to apply for a J-1 Visa and participate in the Exchange Visitor Program. The Office of International Students and Scholars will provide you with the DS-2019 form and additional information regarding the Exchange Visitor Program regulations and your responsibilities. Please note that during your stay here you are responsible for adhering to all university, immigration and exchange visitor program regulations and procedures.

We look forward to your time here at Oklahoma State University. I believe our program and the interests you expressed overlap and intersect in many areas. I believe our mutual interests and this opportunity for exchange will allow us to learn much from each other.

Sincerely,

 6/27/13

Dr. Ramanjulu Sunkar

Associate Professor

Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology

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