

## Letter of recommendation

Prof. Dr. Luís Fernando Friedrich  
Department of Computer Science and Statistics  
Federal University of Santa Catarina  
PO Box 476, 88040-900 Florianópolis – SC, Brazil  
Phone: +55 48 37217543 – E-mail: fernando@inf.ufsc.br



November 9, 2011

Universiteit Utrecht  
International Office – Graduate Admissions  
Heidelberglaan, 8  
3584 CS Utrecht – The Netherlands

Dear Sir or Madam,

I, Dr. Luís Fernando Friedrich, write to you to recommend that João Paulo Pizani Flor be accepted in the “Computing Science” master program of Utrecht University, starting September 2012. From October 2007 until March 2010 I was João’s advisor during his stay at the Computer Science Tutorial Education Program. Also, in 2009, I taught a course on Distributed Systems which João attended.

The Tutorial Education Program (PET) is run by the Brazilian Ministry of Education and supports undergraduate students who show excellent academic performance, giving them a chance to develop their research and teaching skills. The program is spread across some of Brazil’s best universities and the most diverse fields of study. Each PET group is formed by approximately 12 undergraduate students under the supervision of a tenured professor.

João Paulo joined the PET group in his first year of studies, and already demonstrated above-average academic performance back then. His grade average placed him among the top 5% of all his colleagues in the Computer Science B.Sc program. During his 2 years in the PET group, João was engaged in short-term research projects, proposed and presented talks, short courses and led student-organized academic events. These experiences showed he has motivation, leadership and is capable of clearly expressing his ideas, in oral or written form.

The student has, since his first years in University, demonstrated a wish to pursue graduate studies in Europe; his main topics of interest being high-performance computing and functional programming (about which he presented a seminar in 2009). The attendance of this year’s Utrecht Summer School in Computer Science (which I recommended) surely contributed to João’s interest and skills related to functional programming in general and – more specifically – to Haskell.

The academic excellence of the student – along with his motivation and independence – make him well-suited for the pursuit of graduate studies in general. His knowledge and long-term interest in the aforementioned subjects – together with the international experiences he already has – make him well-suited for the environment in Utrecht University and for the Computing Science M.Sc program in particular.

Yours Sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Luís Fernando Friedrich  
Head of the Department of Computer  
Science and Statistics  
Federal University of Santa Catarina