December 16, 2009

Dear Chair,

I would appreciate it if you would circulate this letter to your junior/senior undergraduate students. We especially encourage minority and women students to apply; one of the goals of our funded grants is to promote the number of Hispanic students in the program.

The Radiological Health Physics (RHP) program at San Diego State University is accepting applications for the Fall 2010. The emphasis of the program is on Medical Physics. Application forms for the program are available online at http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/admissions/graduate/radiological_health_phy_ms.html and all supporting documents must be submitted to the Program Coordinator Marcia Queen (mqueen@sciences.sdsu.edu) before February 1, 2010. Students with the following backgrounds will be considered: undergraduate degree in physics, medical physics, bioengineering or other engineering. Students who do not have the equivalent of a minor in physics (http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/catalog) will be conditionally admitted till the pre-requisites are met.

Medical Physics is an interdisciplinary field that integrates expertise in physics, computer science, biology, medicine, and engineering to address challenging problems in medicine. It offers strong and stable career opportunities (see American Association of Medical Physicists (AAPM) website at www.aapm.org/students/prospective.asp.)

The Masters of Science in Radiological Health Physics at San Diego State University (http://arweb.sdsu.edu/es/catalog/bulletin/) is designed to prepares students for careers as Medical Physicists in hospitals and in industry and to qualify them for Ph.D. or clinical residency programs through didactic, laboratory and clinical instructions, designed in accordance with the guidelines of Commission on Accreditation of Medical Physics Educational Programs (CAMPEP). The courses in the program include: Radiological Physics, Diagnostic Imaging (lecture and clinical lab rotation), Radiation Therapy Physics (lecture and clinical lab rotation), Nuclear Instrumentation with Nuclear Medicine clinical lab rotation, Nuclear Medicine Physics, Radiation Biology, Medical Image Processing, and Magnetic Resonance Imaging. The program is designed such that students can complete the course in two years and will include a year of clinical/research internship.

A close relationship with community hospitals as well as academic clinical departments allows us to provide students with excellent research and clinical internship facilities. This partnership also enables us to provide students with access to potential employers and/or links to employers. Our alumni have found successful careers as medical physicists or have gone on to join well-known Ph.D. programs. We are currently seeking CAMPEP accreditation of the program, which is expected to be successfully completed by the fall of 2010.

Thanking You,

Usha Sinha
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Director, Radiological Health Physics
San Diego State University