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I have known Dr Philippe Martin since 1998 when he joined Griffith University as Research Scientist. We have co-written two articles for international conferences and one national research grant proposal. He is flexible, reliable, dedicated analytical and friendly. Because of these traits and the points described in the following paragraphs, as Head of School, I highly recommend Dr Martin for a Senior Lecturer position in Information Technology (a position that he fulfilled effectively at Griffith University).

Dr Martin has 14 years of research & development experience in ontologies / knowledge engineering, sharing and retrieval. At Griffith University, he co-supervised a PhD thesis about the use of statistical methods to support decision making, and in France two PhD thesis related to the exploitation of ontologies to index and retrieve multimedia objects or learning objects. At Griffith University, he also taught four courses ("Internet Programming II", "Workflow Management Systems", "Programming with Procedural languages" and "Introduction to Web-scripting languages") and, on my demand, he convened the "Programming II" course (a course on Java) during the second semester of 2006. I had good feedbacks from his students and especially his Internet Programming students. They liked the numerous examples and templates he gave them, along with his readiness to provide individual help. They also noted that his courses were demanding but stimulating and preparing them well for their future professional tasks.

Dr Martin has developed three complementary knowledge management tools. He applied them to organize, query and compare information from a wide variety of sources, for example, from databases, catalogues, course materials, and tourism-related information. These tools guide their users (typically, Web users) into updating knowledge bases in a normalized way in order to keep these bases semantically well organized and hence easy to search and exploit.

The outcomes of Dr Martin's research & development have been recognized for their originality, importance and excellence. For example, his general multi-source ontology was voted a candidate material for a standard, he published over 30 refereed research publications as sole or main author, and he won very competitive grants or awards: two "Asia-Pacific Oracle Queensland IT&T" awards for excellence and a Griffith E-Learning research fellowship for the use of "Cooperatively updated knowledge bases for e-learning and research" (the reviewers of this project quite relevantly noted the forward looking but practical aspect of Dr Martin's research). This grant offered Dr Martin the opportunity to apply and evaluate his softwares and knowledge-based approach for teaching purposes.

Dr Martin was a project leader at the Australian's Distributed Systems Technology Center (and W3C's Australian Office), which officially closed early 2006. He is familiar to international cooperation, for example with French, Italian, American and Swiss researchers.

To conclude, based on Dr Philippe Martin's achievements and abilities, I highly recommend him for a Senior Lecturer position.

Yours sincerely



Dr Michael Blumenstein

Head of School

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