



July 2, 2010

SACNAS
Student Financial Aid Committee
P.O. Box 8526
Santa Cruz, CA 95061-8526

Dear Financial Aid Committee:

This letter is to strongly endorse Curtis Walker's application for financial aid so that he may attend and participate in the SACNAS 2010 National Conference.

The SACNAS Conference is an extraordinary learning and mentoring opportunity for undergraduate and graduates students, especially students holding membership in ethnic and racial groups that are underrepresented in professional science, engineering, and mathematics workforce.

Curtis is an undergraduate student at SUNY Oneonta University and an intern (protégé) in our Significant Opportunities in Atmospheric Research and Science (SOARS®) program. Curtis demonstrates a very keen commitment to pursue a career as a research scientist. He has a strong record of academic success and a brief but exemplary history as a junior researcher.

This summer as a SOARS protégé, Curtis is conducting a scientific research project with the support of leading researchers at UCAR's National Center for Atmospheric Research. He also attends professional seminars and is participating in our scientific writing and communications workshop.

Curtis is very excited by this opportunity to join a number of SOARS protégés who are SACNAS members and participants in previous SACNAS annual conferences. He plans to submit an abstract of his research report with the hope of presenting a poster at the October conference.

We are proud of Curtis and the progress that he is making, and are enthusiastic about the possibility of his participation at this year's conference.

I am pleased to offer you my highest recommendation in support of his application for financial aid.

Cordially,

Rajul E. Pandya, Ph.D.
SOARS Program Director and Principal Investigator