



Recommendation Letter:

This is a letter of recommendation of Mr. Konstantin Megalooikonomou, who is currently applying for admission in the Doctoral School of Engineering of your Institution. Mr. Megalooikonomou holds a Civil Engineering Diploma from the 5-year undergraduate program in Civil Engineering of Demokritus University of Thrace, in Greece. I know the candidate in my capacity as his Instructor in several advanced-level undergraduate courses, but also as his Supervisor in the Diploma Research Thesis which he had to conduct during the last year of his studies in order to complete the Degree Requirements.

Mr. Megalooikonomou graduated with a 7.43 GPA, which is considered a rather high mark for our undergraduate program, ranking him within the top 10% of his class (no mark adjustment to fit a predetermined mean class value is followed here, so marks higher than 7.5 are rather rare in the program). His undergraduate thesis dealt with *Flexural Strengthening of R.C. Members with Near-Surface Mounted FRP Reinforcement*, involving both experimental and analytical research. As a student, Konstantin was excellent in terms of academic performance, punctuality, consistency in his work, and commitment. But what was most striking about him was his enthusiasm for further studies in Structural Engineering, and his inspiration about research, investigation of structural behavior, and his role as a researcher. With such a positive attitude towards graduate study, combined with his excellent technical background, I felt compelled to encourage him to seek a graduate Degree in Structural Engineering. He was subsequently admitted in the Graduate Program of ROSE School at Pavia (Italy), where he completed successfully the requirements for a Masters in Structural Engineering. His graduate thesis was on *Modelling of FRP Confinement of Rectangular RC Sections*, and was supervised by Dr. G. Monti, a Professor at the University of Rome "La Sapienza". As was the case with his undergraduate thesis work, the graduate thesis was of very high caliber and has already provided the core material for refereed publications.

After a one year break to carry out his military service in Greece, Konstantin is ready to continue with the requirements of a Doctoral course of study with the objective to obtain a PhD in Structural Engineering. In this circumstance I write with great pleasure this letter of support of his candidacy, recommending strongly him for admission to the Doctoral Program offered by your University, feeling confident that Konstantin will be as successful in this endeavor as in his previous terms of study that brought him to this point today. As stated before, apart from the inspiration and commitment that mark him as a scientist and engineer, and the strong technical skills and background that he brings from he previous studies, he is an easy going, low-key genteel person, a team player, but with strong initiatives, motivation and ethics.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you need any additional information (contact details are provided in the letterhead above).

Sincerely,

S. J. Pantazopoulou
Professor, DUTh.