

The British Council,  
M.T. de Alvear 590  
(1058) Buenos Aires.  
ARGENTINA.

DATE: July 17, 1995  
RE: "The British Council and Fundacion Antorchas, Argentina",  
Awards for Advanced studies in the United Kingdom,  
Recommendation letter for Dr. Pablo A. Alemany

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing on behalf of Dr. Pablo A. Alemany for his application to an award from your institution, for working on the subject of "Reaction-Diffusion Systems by Means of Field-Theoretical Methods" with Prof. Cardy, in the United Kingdom.

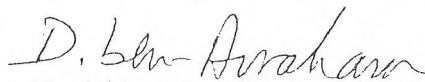
I have first met with Dr. Alemany about three years ago, while he was a graduate student in the University of Freiburg, Germany, during a visit of mine to the place. My specialty is Diffusion-Limited Reactions, and since Pablo was doing his thesis research on this very same topic we soon got to talk to each other. Even at that early stage of his career I was impressed with the scope of the work he has already achieved and with his profound knowledge of the subject.

I have since followed with interest Pablo's development, both through his publications and also through conversations with his thesis advisors (Horacio Wio in Argentina, and Alex Blumen in Germany). In my opinion, Pablo has done exceptionally well.

Last year I was the organizer of the Physics Colloquia program here at Clarkson University, and because several people in our department have an interest in reaction-diffusion systems (Vladimir Privman, Larry Schulman, Larry Glasser, and of course myself) I thought of inviting Pablo over for a talk. His visit has been very successful! During his visit he conducted numerous scientific discussions with the people in our group and I have heard several comments on the good impression he has made on our faculty.

In his conversations with me, Pablo suggested an intriguing possibility for solving the problem of inter-particle distribution functions for the annihilation process,  $A+A \rightarrow 0$ . As a result, we have started a collaboration over e-mail, which recently resulted in a paper submitted to Physics Letters A (we've got an enthusiastic referee report and I expect to see the paper published soon). Working with Pablo on his idea has been very stimulating and I feel like I learned from him a lot. He is incredibly efficient and good natured, which made this an enjoyable experience in spite of the tortuous e-mail connection.

I recently heard from Pablo about his interest in Field-Theoretical techniques and their application to diffusion-reaction systems. I immediately suggested Prof. Cardy as a natural choice for a post-doctor mentor on this subject. I believe that working with Prof. Cardy would be very beneficial to Pablo's further development, and that he is very well suited for this research program. I strongly recommend supporting him with your award!

  
Daniel ben-Avraham  
Associate Prof. of Physics  
Clarkson University