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Professor S. Feller
Department of Physics
Coe College
Cedar Rapids, IA, 52402

Dear Steve,

I am writing to affirm my continued interest in our collaboration on structure in oxide glasses. Over the past seven years, the Coe College students that have visited my laboratory have consistently produced high-quality NMR data on interesting glass systems. The results have contributed to the emergence of an increasingly clear picture of short- and medium-range order in binary and ternary borates. Our systematic approach of analyzing several series of parallel compositions has proven successful. Our preliminary work on vanadate and borovanadate glasses with alkali and alkaline-earth modifiers suggests that there is much to be learned from branching out in new directions. Furthermore, we have just taken delivery of a new probe that will provide the necessary spinning rates to do effective ^{51}V MAS NMR. In combination with our well established double-resonance NMR techniques, this methodology will significantly enhance the information content of our NMR studies.

This project would benefit greatly from having two of your students spend a few weeks here at the University of Manitoba during the summer "research term". With your expertise in making high-quality and well characterized glasses, and my expertise in NMR of glasses, I am sure we will make good progress. In previous visits I have been impressed by the level of dedication possessed by your students, and we have managed to be very productive during their short visits. Having your students perform solid-state NMR experiments at our facility is immeasurably more valuable to them than having data sent by fax or e-mail. Student housing is available on campus for a reasonable rate, and the members of my research group would be glad to host yours.

It would also facilitate our collaboration for me to visit your laboratory during the course of this project, particularly in connection with material preparation and characterization of bulk physical properties. As this has developed into a multi-national collaboration, face-to-face contact is essential to ensure clear understanding of the various facets of this work and to maximize effectiveness.

Sincerely,

Scott Kroeker
Associate Professor