



DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS
9500 GILMAN DRIVE
LA JOLLA, CA 92093-0319

February 15, 2019

Dear Ms. Teng,

It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the Physics Department Admissions Committee has recommended your admission to the Physics PhD program starting in Fall 2019. Once approved, an official offer of admission to UC San Diego will be sent by the Dean of Graduate Division.

Our Department offers you the opportunity to carry out graduate research in any of a wide array of experimental and theoretical fields in physics and astronomy. In addition to these academic opportunities, we think you will find UC San Diego and San Diego a welcoming and attractive environment. Additional information about our faculty and their research specialties can be found at <http://physics.ucsd.edu>. We invite you to contact individual faculty members directly for more information about their research.

For each quarter that you are enrolled in the Physics graduate program during your first academic year, we are pleased to offer you a 50% Teaching Assistantship with a salary for the first year. See below for our support pledge after the first year. As a benefit of employment your tuition scholarship, fee scholarship and health insurance will be covered. The Teaching Assistantship involves approximately 20 hours per week of participation in our undergraduate education program and enables you to gain valuable teaching experience. Please note that you will need to attend a **TA training seminar** prior to the beginning of Fall Quarter, and that your first paycheck will be issued on November 1, 2019.

In recognition of your superb academic record, we are also pleased to offer you a **Physics Excellence Award in the amount of \$5,500 for the 2019-20 academic year**. This award is offered to only the **most highly qualified applicants** to our program, in recognition of their academic achievements to date and their promise as physics graduate students. This award will be distributed in 9 equal payments starting on November 1. In addition, we are offering you a **Summer Research Fellowship Award in the amount of \$4,000 for the summer of 2020** to help facilitate your transition into a research group. Beyond the first year, we offer a guarantee of support as a GSR, TA, &/or Stipend, plus fees for your first **four** years in the program, provided you continue to make satisfactory academic progress. After 3 to 4 years, we expect that you will have advanced to PhD candidacy. At this stage, we renew our pledge to ensure that you continue to have full financial support (as a GSR, TA, Stipend, including fees) for the next several years as you finish the PhD program, provided that you maintain good academic standing and that you are progressing towards completion.

Our experience has been that students who are fluent in spoken English find it easier to do their coursework and research. Furthermore, foreign students whose undergraduate degrees are not from an English-speaking college or university **may not** serve as Teaching Assistants until they demonstrate the

required English language skills by passing an UCSD-administered test of spoken English. Failure to pass the exam will limit employment opportunities to lower-paying grader positions. To assist you in improving your English fluency and to prepare for the TA language exam, we plan to offer a special preparation course before fall quarter begins. We will provide exact dates when they are known, but you should expect the course to be held from approximately **mid August to mid September**. If you choose to attend this course, you will also receive a stipend payment of \$3,500 on or about October 1, 2019 to help cover expenses of moving and establishing a place to live. After successful completion of UCSD's Spoken English Language Exam, you will be eligible to receive additional stipend payments of up to \$3,000. The precise amount of your stipend will depend on when you complete the exam. Please notify Sharmila Poddar if you will participate in the English language course.

The specific details of your first-year award for the academic year (from Oct. 1 to June 30) and Summer of 2020 are as follows:

*Physics Excellence Award (Paid Nov 1 to July 1)	\$5,500.00
Teaching Assistantship Salary (Paid Nov 1 to July 1)	\$21,911.18
Registration Fee Scholarship (including Health Insurance)	\$17,005.86
Non-Resident Tuition Scholarship (Fall, Winter, Spring)	\$15,102.00
**Stipend (October 1, 2019)	\$3,500.00
Summer Research Fellowship (July to Sept. 2020)	\$4,000.00
TOTAL	\$67,019.04
*Potential increase in the Excellence Award of up to \$3,000.00 depending on the timing of successful completion of the Spoken English Language Exam. Maximum total \$8,500.00. **Assuming you attend the English Language course.	

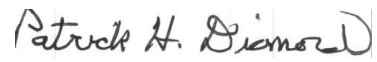
Graduate students, are expected to become affiliated with a research group as early as possible, as most students are supported primarily by research group funds after the initial support period detailed in this letter. Financial support eligibility is contingent upon: enrollment as a fulltime student (12 units each quarter) in good standing (min. 3.0 GPA), satisfactory progress toward the degree including substantive involvement in research with a faculty advisor, and good performance as a Teaching Assistant (TA) and/or a Graduate Student Researcher (GSR).

The Council of Graduate Schools' resolution regarding graduate scholars, states that students are under no obligation to respond to offers of admission and financial support before April 15, 2019. However, in order for us to make optimal use of our resources, we would appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible concerning your decision about attending UC San Diego.

Our open house has been scheduled for April 2 and April 3, 2019. We will not be able to pay for International travel but if you are making plans to visit the US, you are most welcome to visit any time or to attend our open house and we may be able to provide some assistance with US internal travel expenses. If you have questions regarding either our program or the details of your offer, please feel free to contact Professor Patrick Diamond at (858) 534-4025 or pdiamond@ucsd.edu, or Sharmila Poddar in Student Affairs at (858) 822-1074 or spoddar@physics.ucsd.edu.

On behalf of the Department of Physics, I extend a warm and enthusiastic invitation for you to join us in the fall.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick H. Diamond". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "P" and "D".

Patrick H. Diamond
Department Vice Chair and Distinguished Professor