



Department of Materials Science and Engineering
414F Ferris Engineering Building
1508 Middle Drive
Knoxville, Tennessee 37996-2100
Office: (865) 974-4858
Fax: (865) 974-4115
Cell: (865) 368-0842
E-mail: kurt@utk.edu

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Mr. Feng Li's Research Visit to The University of Tennessee

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my pleasure to write this confirmation letter regarding the research visit of Mr. Feng Li to The University of Tennessee (UT) from January thru March, 2014. During his visit, Mr. Li worked with my research team in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering (MSE) at UT. I am a professor in the MSE department at UT and I am the Head of this department. My research interests are in radiation effects in materials for nuclear reactor applications. As such, my research interests overlap strongly with the research interests of Professor Hiroaki Abe at Tohoku University. Professor Abe is the research supervisor for Mr. Li. Below, I provide a summary of the work that Mr. Li engaged in during his exchange visit to UT.

Ion irradiation experiment. Mr. Li designed a sample holder for an ion irradiation experiment to be performed on samples of oxide dispersion strengthened (ODS) steel that he brought with him from Japan. This high temperature holder will be used for irradiation experiments to be performed in the near future in the Ion Beam Materials Laboratory (IBML) at UT. Following ion irradiation, we will ship the samples back to Mr. Li in Japan.

Transmission electron microscopy (TEM). Mr. Li received training on a TEM at UT, specifically a Zeiss Libra 200. Mr. Li successfully completed this training and performed some preliminary observations on his ODS steel samples.

Focused ion beam (FIB) TEM sample preparation. Mr. Li received training on a Zeiss FIB instrument and he learned to make an electron transparent TEM sample using this technique.

Working group meetings. Mr. Li attended the weekly meetings of my research group and he also presented a seminar on his research in one of my meetings.

In summary, Mr. Li had an active and successful visit to UT and to work with my research team. Hopefully, we will be able to ion irradiate Mr. Li's samples in the IBML soon. This work should lead to a nice collaborative research publication. I am most pleased that Mr. Li was able to engage in this very interesting and fruitful exchange visit to UT.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Kurt E. Sickafus". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "K".

Kurt E. Sickafus
Alvin and Sally Beaman Professor and Head
Department of Materials Science and Engineering
The University of Tennessee - Knoxville