



a place of mind
THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver School of Economics

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To whom it may concern

I am writing in support of Aruni Mitra, who is applying for a grant from your organization. Aruni's research proposal has my full endorsement.

Aruni is a 2nd year PhD student in Economics at UBC in Vancouver, Canada. I first met him in the Spring of 2015, while teaching part of the 1st year PhD Macro sequence. Since then I have had the opportunity to talk to him regularly. Aruni has successfully passed his compulsory examinations and is attending elective courses during his second year. Starting in April 2016 he will have no other coursework and will devote his entire time to research.

Aruni's research proposal is at the intersection of household economics and labor economics. Essentially, Aruni is suggesting to apply existing methods which are used to identify the effects of life cycle income shocks on consumption (popularized by Richard Blundell and coauthors) to the analysis of households' intergenerational linkages. I believe that what Aruni is proposing is both feasible and interesting, and would deserve some support.

Aruni is competent, driven and extremely focused. I have already expressed my willingness to overview this research and participate actively in this project (I was the one who let Aruni know about the availability of these NBER grants). I should mention that Aruni has also talked to Hamish Low (based in Cambridge, UK) about this project, and Hamish has shown interest and willingness to help out. Some of the funding would cover Aruni's travel expenses to the UK to work with Hamish. I believe that the marginal return from any support at this stage would be extremely high, as it would allow him to fully focus on this work and put together a very interesting data set linking consumption and income across generations. I give my support with no hesitation and I would be willing to provide additional information if necessary.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Giovanni Gallipoli".

Giovanni Gallipoli