



ÉCOLE POLYTECHNIQUE

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MONTRÉAL 250

Mr. C. Papanastasopoulos, M.Sc. (McMaster)
D.Sc. Student,
Department of Metallurgy.

February 28, 1973.

Dr. Joseph C. Burke,
Academic Vice-President,
Loyola of Montreal,
Montreal 262, Quebec.

Dear Dr. Burke,

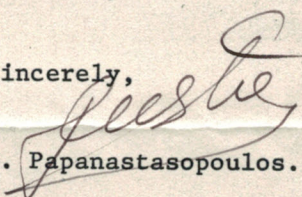
I, as a student of Dr. Bagchi in the courses of Modern Physics and Quantum Mechanics, have been informed that my professor was hurt very much by the remarks of the students as published in Loyola course evaluation 1970-71. I personally would like to amend by this letter any misconception that might have arisen from the published reports as to his capability as a teacher.

In my courses of higher studies in graduate school I have found that the subject matter, he taught, his remarks, so far as I could remember or note down, had helped me much in understanding the graduate courses much more easily and effectively, which at the time I was hearing his lectures, I could not fully appreciate. I think that most of the troubles which the average student faced in his courses as undergraduate students originated from the fact that they were not sufficiently prepared in the prerequisite courses and did not work hard enough due to the fact that they were taking simultaneously several other difficult and advanced courses. Moreover, and unfortunately, the time when we usually submit evaluation reports coincides with the period when Prof. Bagchi starts the more difficult and abstract subject matter. Only towards the end of the course, I realized and comprehended the subject matter better and appreciated his comments and efforts to teach us the exact significance of this new development of physics. This is proved by the fact that many of us got high marks in the final examination. Furthermore, because I received a sound training in the fundamentals of Quantum Mechanics from his course, it was quite easy for me to understand the advanced courses in Quantum Mechanics at McMaster University.

This course was attended by various students from different universities of Canada and U. S. A. but I got the topmost mark in the examination, thanks to the excellent teaching of Dr. Bagchi. Moreover, I completed the M.Sc. course and thesis which demanded considerable knowledge of Quantum Mechanics in the minimum required time. These facts clearly prove the excellency of Dr. Bagchi to whom I owe my basic knowledge of Quantum Mechanics as a teacher. His effectiveness as a teacher, I believe, depended much on the fact that he not only tried to explain the basic ideas exhaustively but also because he solved for us many typical problems illustrating the concrete application of these ideas. This also helped me considerably in tackling Quantum Mechanics problems of my graduate course. I am also very grateful to him for taking very great pains to explain any difficulties whenever I needed, and stimulating my interest in physics in various ways, in order that I may be capable of becoming a good physicist in future.

Finally, I would like to state that my teachers in McMaster were very satisfied with my performance there as a graduate student and I believe (from the remarks of my supervisors) that I have established a good reputation for the Physics Department of Loyola.

Sincerely,


C. Papanastasopoulos.

CC: Fr. Malone, (President)
Fr. Graham, (Dean of Science)
Dr. Eappen, (Chairman, Dept. of Physics) and Dr. S. N. Bagchi.
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