

ICSE 2012 Student Volunteers
Letter of Recommendation

I write this letter of recommendation to support the participation of Jorge Mendes as an ICSE 2012 Student Volunteer.

I met Jorge Mendes at the Informatics Department at the University of Minho, when he was in the first year of the MSc in Computer Science.

The departmental MSc in Computer Science at Minho University is a two year program, where the first year consists of a set of (optional) courses and a one year long (group) project and the second year is totally devoted to develop the MSc thesis.

In the context of the project I am a member of, "*SSaaPP - SpreadSheets as a Programming Paradigm*" (funded by our National Research Council), in March last year we received applications for a junior research grant. Jorge won that grant and started working with us, when he was still in the first year of the MSc. Being impressed with the work he developed, we decided to extend the grant for more nine months, so he could work on his MSc thesis.

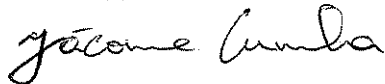
As expected, Jorge is doing an excellent MSc program: indeed, he is one of our best students in this year MSc program. It is in the context of the *SSaaPP* project that Jorge has defined the embedding of ClassSheet models in the OpenOffice spreadsheet system (an embedding that involves several thousands of lines of Visual Basic code!) and that he developed, together with our team, the bidirectional model-driven engineering approach to spreadsheets.

Jorge already expressed his interest in continuing working in this area and to continue to the PhD program. In the beginning of developing a research thesis (both a MSc and PhD levels) it is particularly important to attend international events where he can contact both with students in the same position as him so they can discuss ideas in an informal environment, and with senior researchers, from whom he can learn the most.

Moreover, Jorge has already demonstrated his willing to help in other conferences, since he participated as a volunteer at ICPC 2010 (still as an undergraduate student). Indeed, Jorge fluently speaks English and has already presented a paper at VL/HCC 2011. In fact, we will present a Formal Demonstration at ICSE 2012.

Thus, I find very important that Jorge Mendes participates as a volunteer at ICSE 2012. I am totally convinced that he will be an active volunteer, and that he will profit a lot from such participation.

Sincerely yours,



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