



March 10, 2023

Dear Maithili Majithia,

Congratulations! I am pleased to inform you that you have been recommended for acceptance to the Integrative Biosciences PhD program, Biochemistry track here at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. You will receive an official letter of acceptance from the Office of Graduate Studies, to which you will need to respond. Please email me as soon as possible with your decision to accept or reject our offer. We will need to know your decision by **Thursday March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023**, at the latest. I will be happy to answer any questions that may help you with this decision.

I will serve as your initial faculty advisor. This is not necessarily a permanent assignment, but it will serve to get you started in the program. Your advisor is the person with whom you will be planning your courses and designing your research. As the program is interdisciplinary, you will be required to select a secondary advisor by the end of your first year.

You have also been recommended for a full research assistantship, with a stipend of **\$20,352** for the 9 months academic year (Fall 2023 and Spring 2024 semesters), plus all applicable tuition waivers and health insurance credits. The University provides tuition credit in accordance with the Agreement between the Board of Trustees of the University of Massachusetts and the Graduate Employee Organization (<https://geoumb.org/contract>). In addition, your advisor has agreed to provide you with summer support in the amount **\$6,000** for the summer of 2024. There are mechanisms to increase the earning potential beyond the above stipend amount through endowments, awards and other funding options. You should receive official details regarding the assistantship from the University, and I will be happy to answer any questions you may have about this assistantship.

While the commitment described above is for your first year, your advisor aims to provide you with support for up to 5 years at the same level assuming that you continue to make satisfactory progress and remain in good academic standing. This support will be provided as either a Research Assistantship from external grants to your advisor, a Teaching Assistantship at UMB, or a combination of both. We encourage all our students to apply for additional support and aid.

Congratulations again! We look forward to having you join our program.

Sincerely,

Kim Hamad-Schifferli

Associate Professor, Department of Engineering  
Affiliate Faculty, School for the Environment  
Integrative Biosciences Graduate Program Director  
University of Massachusetts Boston