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To whom it may concern,

I am writing to inform you that Johannes Dietz has formally undertaken a studentship for with the Institute of Arctic Biology at the University of Alaska Fairbanks between May 6th and July 10th 2000. The studentship is part of a National Science Foundation funded project entitled "Arctic Transitions in the Land Atmosphere System (ATLAS)" and was based in Council on the Seward Peninsula, Alaska for the summer of 2000.

Johannes was involved in the fieldwork component of this research that involved the measurement of the parameters that are critical to the processes that couple the permafrost - land - atmosphere system. This field research stage has and will continue to characterize ecosystems that are likely to be important under future climate change scenarios and also characterize types that have not previously been examined. On the Seward Peninsula Johannes was engaged in site characterization, plot design, sampling strategies, and measurement techniques. He gained hands-on experience in determining surface energy fluxes, boundary-layer measurements, leaf area index, plant density and abundance, plant type and structural characteristics, permafrost depth, etc. Johannes participated fully in research activities including a program of meteorological and ecophysiological sampling on regular basis. Skills gained will include; species identification, biomass and diversity measurements, use of data-loggers, use of infrared gas analyzers in ecosystem CO_2 flux measurements, and familiarity with micrometeorological and boundary-layer measurements including use of the eddy correlation system in measuring surface energy exchanges.

If you have any queries regarding this studentship please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Jason Beringer

Dr. Jason Beringer